

Desert

AUGUST 1970

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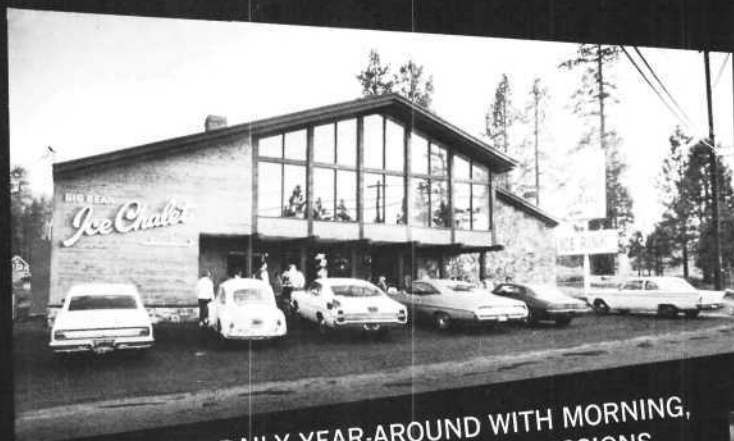
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THE COVER:

Nestled in a historic valley in Southern California's San Bernardino National Forest, Big Bear Lake is surrounded by cool pine forests and is a year-round resort for fishermen, hikers, campers and winter sportsmen. Photo by Jack Pepper.

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A Peek in the Publisher's Poke

A NUMBER OF subscribers have written in stating they did not receive a certain issue. This is the result of one of the following: Sufficient time for a change of address was not allowed and as the magazine is mailed second-class, it *will not* be forwarded; in some instances the little kraft wrapper works loose and the magazine falls out; an incorrect address which results in several weeks time to correct; in any case if this does happen to you, drop me a card

and you will get your missing magazine by return mail. Another pet peeve of some subscribers is our method of sending out renewal notices. Only three notices are sent. The first notice is sent three issues before expiration; the second notice with two issues remaining and the third and final notice is mailed at the same time as the last issue of your subscription. This is to allow ample time for you to renew without causing a lot of extra work on this end. If we wait too late to notify, the subscription expires, then you have to be reinstated, the copies that you missed in the interim have to be forwarded and a simple operation becomes complex. If anyone has a better system I would appreciate hearing from them.

All desert lovers were saddened with the news of the death of Joseph Wood Krutch in Tucson, Arizona May 22. An author, scholar, drama critic and naturalist, Krutch moved to Arizona in 1950 and became one of the great conservationists of the nation. His narrations on television and numerous books awoke in many the desire to know the desert more intimately and thusly opened the door to those who were unaware of the greatness of the desert southwest.

This issue of Desert Magazine heralds a new feature. Readers have requested so often about where to stay, things to see in conjunction with stories that appear, and with this in mind have created Desert Safari. Each month, if possible, we will cover a specific area in detail, giving a historic outline, recreational activities available and important features of interest. These "safaris" will be accompanied by a selected group of advertisers with a service for those in the area. For our initial safari we chose the Big Bear Lake area of Southern California and its cool waters and green pines. Let me assure you, that choice was not in any manner related to the fact that as this is written a "cool" 118° is registering on the office thermometer! Next month's "Safari" will be in the Mother Lode Country and should be a big favorite with all our history buffs.

I noticed an interesting recipe in *The Treasure Chest*, a little bulletin published by The Sierra Treasure Hunters Club of Sacramento.

ELEPHANT STEW: 1 elephant, 2 cups salt, 2 cups pepper.

Cut elephant into 1 inch cubes, frequently adding pinches of salt and pepper. (This should take approximately 72 days.) Add enough brown gravy to cover. Cook over kerosene fire about four weeks at 465 degrees. (If more than 3800 are expected, two rabbits may be added but do this only if necessary, as most people do not like to find hare in their stew.)

No doctor, heat doesn't bother me at all!

William Krutch



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Book Reviews

by Jack Pepper

A TRAMP ACROSS THE CONTINENT

By Charles F. Lummis

When Colonel Harrison Gray Otis started the *Los Angeles Times*, one of the first city editors he hired was a young man who had been a Harvard classmate of Teddy Roosevelt.

Only a few years out of college, where he excelled in athletics and history, Charles F. Lummis was editor of the *Scioto Gazette* in Chillicothe, Ohio in 1884 when he was offered the position on the *Times*. He accepted on one condition—he be given time to walk from Ohio to California and write about his experiences.

In 143 days he walked 3507 miles, averaging between 30 and 50 miles a day as he crossed eight states fighting robbers, wild animals and the elements of snow blizzards and searing heat.

His agility and quick reaction saved his life at least three times; once in an encounter with a convict, once with a mountain lion and once with his own dog. The latter is one of the most poignant episodes as he describes how his faithful greyhound dog, Shadow, near the end of the journey suddenly turned mad and attacked Lummis, forcing him to shoot his constant companion.

Another dramatic incident is when he broke his arm. More than 100 miles away from a physician, Lummis described how he tied his arm to a tree with a strap, pulled it straight so it would set and then made splints out of tree limbs. After a rest, he continued on his journey.

What is appealing to this reviewer is the matter-of-fact way Lummis writes about his adventures, which, given the Hollywood or modern-day reporter's treatment, would make him out a Paul Bunyon. He writes without braggadocio and on a low key. His insight into the

the people he meets is powerful and penetrating.

After resting only one day on his arrival in Los Angeles, Lummis assumed his duties as editor of the *Times*. In later years he covered the majority of the historic events of the West. He was author of many Southwestern books, historian, archeologist, librarian and founder of the noted Southwest Museum in Los Angeles.

First published in 1892, *A Tramp Across The Continent* has been out-of-print for years. Calvin Horn Publisher, Inc., of Albuquerque, New Mexico, has republished the original. This is one of the most fascinating books this reviewer has had the pleasure of reading in many months. Hardcover, 270 pages, \$8.50.

INYO MONO JEEP TRAILS

By Roger Mitchell

The author of *Death Valley Jeep Trails*, veteran explorer Roger Mitchell has written another excellent book on exploring the back country in California's Inyo and Mono Counties along the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Whereas his *Death Valley* book is for winter, his new guide is for four-wheelers who want to explore areas during the summer which are impassable during the winter.

The author takes you on 18 different trips into the wilderness areas of the Sierras where he explores ghost towns, mining areas, Indian territory and scenic canyons and mountain passes.

Mitchell, a frequent contributor to *DESERT* Magazine, is a factual writer who has personally covered all of the areas he describes in his book. The directions are detailed and give explicit instructions as to what and what not to do.

Many of the remote areas he covers are known to only a few, so you'll be going into seldom visited territory. Paperback, 36 pages, illustrated, \$1.00.

Books reviewed may be ordered from the *DESERT* Magazine Book Order Department, Palm Desert, California 92260. Please include 50c for handling. California residents must add 5% sales tax. Enclose payment with order.

DOING NUTTING

by Elizabeth Beebe



THE LITTLE white pinyon nut runs the culinary gamut from being a staple food of the Indians to a delicacy for the gourmet. It is cooperative in its profusion as the pinyon trees range through parts of all the western states and are usually masses of little green cones in the fall.

It is only when you go pine nutting yourself and follow the entire process from cone to nut that you really appreciate the little white pine nuts and condone a gourmet store's high price for the finished product.

About ten miles north of Bishop, California and up to a 6000 foot altitude we discovered a veritable forest of the scrubby looking little trees. Spreading tarps beneath them, the men whacked at the branches with long poles having hooks on the ends. Soon there were more little green cones falling down than we could ever use. We packed several burlap sacks full, getting ourselves well-covered with pitch. Even

the Indians can't escape the pitch. They use grease to get it off. Once home we resorted to dry cleaner.

The cones we collected on that particular day had not been ready to drop so consequently it took more than a week in the sun for them to open up. Once green, fat and sticky they were now brown with open petals. At the base of each wing of the flat rosettes, there were two brown pine nuts that fell out easily. These were now ready for roasting which we did on a shallow pan in a slow oven. Roasting turns the shell a bit softer so you can crack it in your teeth.

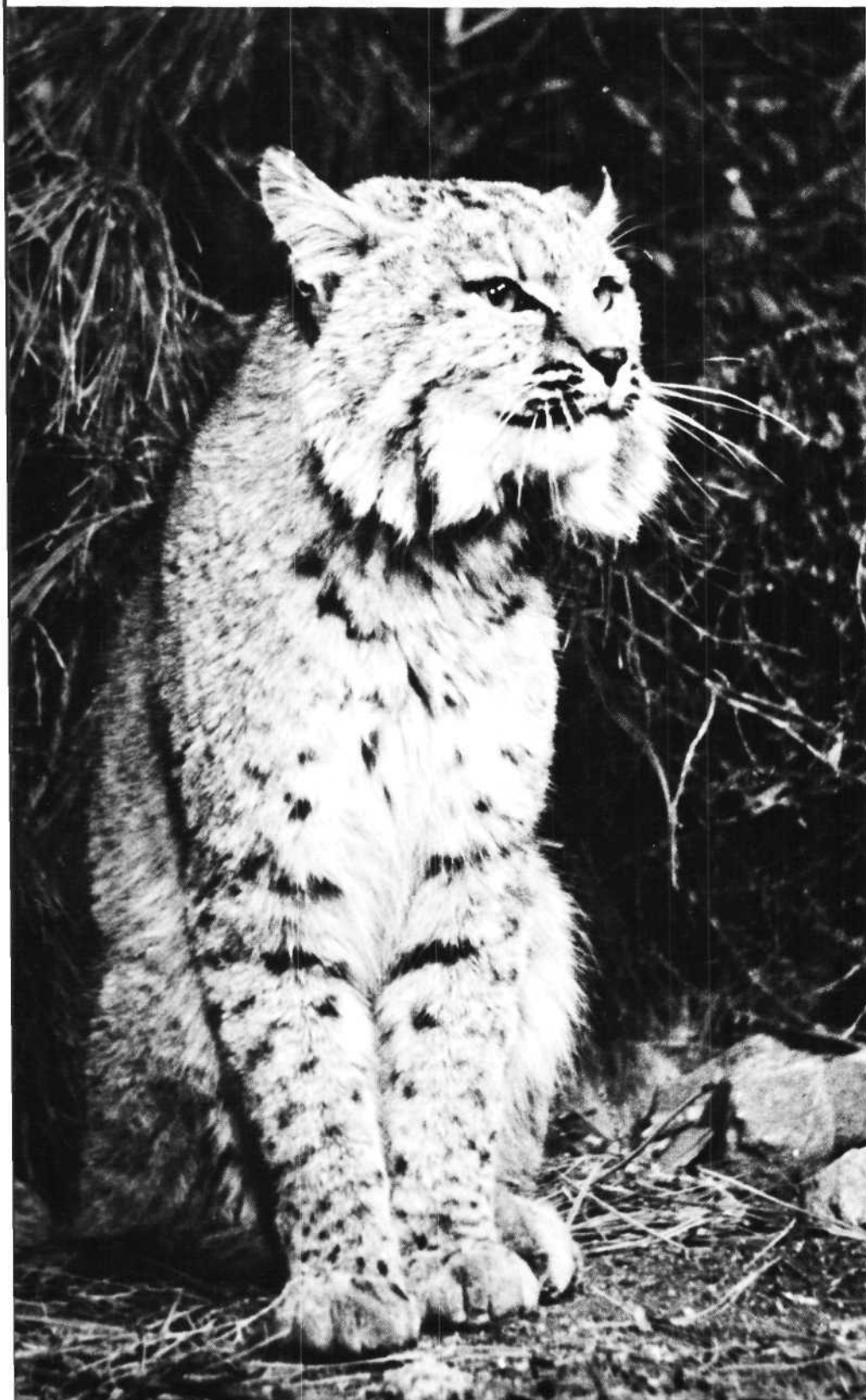
If you want to be real fancy, lay some of the nuts on a soft cloth, cover with another and then hit over the top gently with a flat stone. You can husk quite a few nuts at a time by this method. What a feeling of accomplishment you have when you set a bowl of this truly gourmet product on your table!

The Paiute Indians follow the procedure with more finesse in a primitive sort of way. They wait until the cones are dropping before they harvest them from the trees. Filling burlap bags they then beat the bags with stout sticks so, when shaken, nuts fall out with opened rosettes. The Indians then roast the entire mass in a charcoal pit with a charcoal fire on top and allow the nuts to roast slowly. When removed and cooled, the mass is put into a winnowing basket, where it is stirred and windblown until nothing is left but the clean brown nuts.

Depending on the pine nuts as a staple food, the Indians use them in many ways. Easiest is the soup they make by simply boiling the nuts in water. A popular dish is the pine nut mush made from ground nut meats. The Paiutes have two methods of making this. One is to take a large flat rock and cover it with nuts. Then they grind over them with a smaller flat rock till the nuts are quite fine. The

Continued on page 34

Desert Wildcat



A HUNTER OF surpassing skill, the wildcat is trigger-fast and has endless patience and control. Endowed with the keenest sight, smell and hearing, armed with the best of weapons, she is supremely confident. Hers is an ancient hunting instinct, a feline tribal know-how, honed to an art of deadly precision by lessons learned from her mother.

The wildest rocky gorges and canyons of the deserts of the Southwest, their open arid stretches, their rough brush country and foothills, all offer a good living to this master hunter. For food, pocket mice, kangaroo rats, rabbits, small mammals of many varieties are to be had. For denning or just dozing away the sunny hours, ledges, cliffs, rocky slopes provide safe retreats.

Although an able daytime hunter, the desert wildcat prefers to work at dusk and night, moving out when darkness begins to drop down over the desert. For then it is that fat members of the rodent fraternity venture forth from their hiding places in search of seeds and succulent cactus. Big ears up and listening fearfully, they flee at the slightest sound.

But the desert wildcat hunts on padded feet, putting each paw down so softly, so slowly that the air scarcely moves with her coming. Ears cocked, she hears the smallest stirring. Stealthily she inches closer and closer. Then—from a silent crouching position—a flash of incredible speed, a pounce, right on target.

The first few seconds are crucial, as she is not built for the long chase. A relatively small animal (the desert wildcat is only about twice the size of a house cat, and weighs perhaps 20 pounds) she cannot outrun and overtake prey as does the long-legged coyote. Rather, from the tip of her snub nose to the end of her short

The wildcat rests during the day and does his hunting at night.

by K. L. Boynton

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tail, she's designed for sudden bursts of speed, for prodigious leaps, for twisting and turning even in mid-air.

Her hind leg bones—exactly the right proportions and working at exactly the right angles at hip and knee joints—act as levers to make the spring, powered by outsized muscles. Cushioned with cartilage, her spine takes the jars out of jumping. But there's one big drawback. Bursts of such speed demand a special kind of muscle whose fibers are chemically and structurally made for split-second action. Such fibers burn up so much energy so fast, the cat tires quickly and cannot keep up the pace.

Far better to spot danger first and slip away—which is why desert wildcats, although common throughout the Southwest, are so seldom seen. They also know how to make the most of natural camouflage, flattening out and staying absolutely still, lost against the background in their tawny grey and faintly spotted coat. Should one be flushed, off it goes with typical cat speed and in a wildly erratic jumpy manner of a rabbit.

Zoologist Howell, impressed with the odd gait of a fleeing cat, did a lot of camera work. Studying the film under slow motion, he discovered that the animal is actually galloping with its front legs and bounding with the hind ones. Kicked off from a standstill by both rear legs working together, the wildcat springs forward and lands on only one front foot. At the same time, it swings the other forward and shifts its weight onto that. While the weight is up front, the hind legs are brought up under the body for the next bounding kick-off.

Complacently self-efficient, wildcats live strictly alone, the males having a

normal range of five miles, the females, three. Each cat minds its own business most of the time, sleeping by day, hunting silently at night. It avoids even chance encounters with neighbors, and hence battles. But at family raising time, things are different.

Any camper who has felt his hair stand straight up when the silence of the desert night was suddenly ripped wide open by the unearthly squalls and yowls of courting wildcats, knows things are different. No longer aloof and anti-social, the cats are now exceedingly interested in the fellows and girls of adjoining ranges. They seek encounters. Rousing battles immediately result, fights whose accompanying clamor make the Alley Cats' Singing and Fighting Society seem like a whisper.

A wildcat bacchanal is a revel of savage ferocity—a bedlam of madness even in the open desert. Held deep in a canyon, it sounds nothing less than the carousing of giant pumas, as the growls, snarls, wails and yowls hit and bounce from rocky wall to wall, echoing and rising in sound and fury.

Wildcat wooing starts along in January and may continue on and off until June. Gashwiler, Robinette and Morris found in their study of the animals in Utah that most families arrive in May. There was no evidence of Mr. Wildcat helping out with the chores, he apparently having returned to his solitary life immediately following the fatiguing song-fest and revels.

Mrs. Wildcat is a knowing and very good mother, selecting a nursery den



Not not much larger than its domestic cousin, the wildcat is far from tame.

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site tucked back in a cliff crevice, reached perhaps by only a narrow ledge. After about 55 days on the production line, the kittens arrive—usually two to four of them — with their eyes closed and quite helpless. At this stage, aside from being dressed in spotted coats, they resemble the fresh-out offspring of house cats. Their eyes open in about nine to eleven days. At two weeks, the kittens are pretty good sized, weighing perhaps three-quarters of a pound. Now they begin to take on tribal characteristics: tufts of hair on the jaws, and long plumes at the ear tips; their limbs have the heavier wildcat look; their tails stay stubby, and for their age, they have big feet.

Although they are weaned at about eight weeks, they still must be provided with food, protected and cared for by their mothers for several months more, while they practice the art of hunting.

Cuffed to attention, if need be, they learn how to crouch and wait whisker-still, how to spring and catch and hold on, where to sink their teeth for that fatal bite. Accompanying their mother on her hunting safaris, they observe an expert at work, and eventually help in the kill.

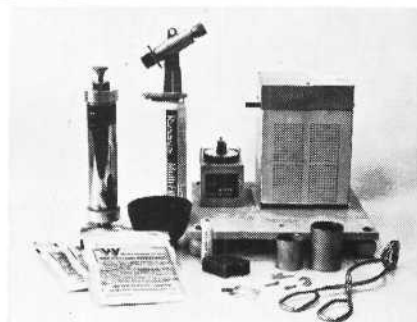
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Yet the wildcat family is a playful one, the youngsters tumbling among themselves, playing pounce and other hunting games, or engaging in mock battles with their mother. By the time they are three-fourths grown they have learned their lessons so well they can hunt for themselves.

While the young may stick together for the rest of the season, they are ready by the next for solitary adulthood and each goes off on his own. Their success is assured even in their blazing desert homeland when only night activity is possible, for they have some of the finest adaptations to the dark. The marvelously constructed feline eye enables the cats to see very well even by faint starlight, for it is crowded with cells of such low threshold that the slightest illumination sets them working.

Wildcats therefore can hunt by sight long after the coyote, for example, can no longer see what he's doing. The blazing yellow-green splendor of a wildcat's eyes at night is a reflection of light hitting a shiny patch of crystal-packed cells that lie at the back of the eye, called the *tapetum lucidum*, or bright carpet.

Stepped-up hearing is another night adaptation. The wildcat has it both in

better ear elements and in the big development of those parts of the brain concerned with hearing. Heightening of the sense of touch is another big advantage for night life. The wildcat's body is extremely sensitive, for located in the skin, muscles and tendons and joints are centers rich in nerves that detect the slightest pressures. Even whiskers act as touch organs, for each hair is set in a base of nerve endings. Whiskers help the cat slip through dry desert plants without telltale rustle. They show her when a rocky passageway is too nar-

row to get through. It is even thought now that these whiskers are so sensitive they may also respond to small air movement, working almost like a distance sense to locate the presence of prey and thus help in night hunting.

With all this fine tribal equipment and training, no wonder young wildcats can start out with such confidence. For them the rugged and open desert makes a fine home, with rodents to catch, places for solitude, and neighbors in kind to ignore, battle, or sing with as the times decide. □

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Tioga

THE NAME Yosemite brings to mind unsurpassed views of rugged Sierra peaks, rivers of white water cascading over sheer granite walls, and icy glacial lakes. A hundred years ago, this scenic grandeur was viewed by prospectors out to strike it rich on Tioga Hill as just so many obstacles between them and the proverbial pot of gold. For the crest of the Sierra, along which the eastern boundary of Yosemite National Park now runs, had its share of early California mining excitement.

Pathway to Yosemite's long abandoned mining camps is the Tioga Hill Trail. The rugged terrain is off limits to wheels, but cars may be parked at a public campground situated at the junction of the Tioga Pass and Saddlebag Lake roads, two miles east of the Tioga Pass Entrance Station. The trail begins at the campground's northwest corner.

The first part of the path closely parallels the rushing water of Slate Creek and is well defined by fishermen's footprints. To reach the townsite of Bennettville, situated on a gentle

The Great Sierra Tunnel (above) can be seen in upper left corner in this view from the assay office. A weathered limb (right) marks one of the many prospect holes on Tioga Hill. Largest building in Dana Village (opposite page) the structure has two-foot thick rock walls. Today it is a home for wood rats.



Hill

Trail

by Betty Shannon

knoll at the foot of Tioga Hill, the creek must be forded.

In 1882, Bennettville was headquarters for the Tioga Mining District. One optimist of the day predicted the town would someday boast a population of 50,000 residents. Today, the barn and assay office, Bennettville's two remaining buildings are abandoned.

The first prospecting and location of claims in the area was in 1860. But the promised treasure of Tioga Hill was soon abandoned for the more accessible wealth of the Aurora ledges in western Nevada.

The old Sheepherder claim and Tioga lode were rediscovered in 1874. Subsequent assays showed samples to be rich in silver. The great Sierra Mining Company was formed in 1878 to finance the tremendous task of drilling into the hard rock to tap the wealth, hopefully existing deep within Tioga Hill.

Not a small part of the difficulty involved was transporting the necessary machinery to this remote location. Bennettville's 9300 foot elevation was a long, uphill pull from everywhere. The scenic, but still precipitous, Tioga Pass route did not exist in those days.

The seemingly impossible was accomplished in the winter of 1882, when eight tons of needed machinery was dragged, lifted and pushed up the nine miles from the then booming town of Lundy, located on the eastern slope of the Sierra above Mono Lake. The difficult assignment was not completed without its toll of life, both of men and mules.

Mining engineers planned two approaches to extract Tioga's estimated \$12,000,000 treasure. While men and machinery chewed a hole horizontally into the rock near Bennettville, an auxiliary operation worked down vertically

from the top of the mountain. But after boring through 1784 feet of hard rock, paydirt had not been reached. Expenditures for Tioga Hill totaled more than \$300,000. In the summer of 1884, all work was suspended. Eventually, everything collapsed for the mining company except the Great Sierra Tunnel. It exists today as a historic monument to the ghosts of Bennettville. A pair of rusting narrow gauge rails disappear within the mountain's black depths. The faint pounding of long silenced drills is echoed by the steady drip of water from the tunnel's arched ceiling.

In the 1930s and once again in the 1950s the tunnel was extended. But the fabled lode sits as firmly embedded within Tioga Hill as it did the day it was discovered over a century ago.

The mouth of the Great Sierra Tunnel can be seen from the empty window

frame of the assay office. For a closer inspection, the icy water of Slate Creek must be forded once again.

Several hundred feet north of the tunnel's entrance, the Tioga Hill trail continues its circuitous route to Dana Village, site of the vertical assault on Tioga's riches. The trail switchbacks a dozen or more times across the loose slate. Even in late summer, portions of the trail may be obscured by slowly melting snowdrifts.

Although the climb takes less than two hours, the silent scene upon the hilltop suggests an eerie backward turn of time. Prospect holes dot the rugged landscape. Rock mounds pierced by gray weathered limbs locate claim boundaries. It is still 1880 on Tioga Hill.

The trail crosses a shallow ravine, skirting several small ponds fed by melting snow banks, and continues toward

Continued on page 34



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Desert Gardening

by Eric Johnson

THE SOUTHERN Arizona gardener looks to the sky around noon for a build-up of rain clouds, but you can hardly depend on this kind of watering. The low elevation gardens in Southern California's Coachella Valley, south to Yuma, then east to the Salt River Valley are now going through one of the most water-demanding months of the summer. Make sure all sprinklers and bubblers are covering and automatic clocks set for the right cycling.

After the wear and tear of summer watering, plus wind storms, watering basins often need to be remade to provide enough room for an adequate pool of water. The growth of competitive roots of trees and hedges and areas of exposure by reflection from buildings, walls, drives, pools, and walks place extra water demands on plants.

Apply water in the evening to get the benefit of high water pressure. For plants such as roses that are susceptible to mildew, morning watering gives the leaves a chance to dry. In all cases put water into the deep root zone.

For the persistent gardener who continues to plant during the heat of summer, I suggest:

Select acclimated plants only. Those brought in from the Los Angeles basin are too soft to withstand desert sun and heat. Local nurserymen usually provide more adaptable plant material.

When you plant in hot weather. Keep plants under cover until you are ready to plant. Keep root ball thoroughly wet. Dig hole and add water before planting. Cut can, place root ball in hole filled with

water, backfill immediately. Another method is to apply water as you backfill to settle the soil mix and to eliminate air pockets. Make sure root ball is covered with backfill and water again. Add mulch to fill basin.

Keep the growth of Bermuda and other tropical grasses in good color by applying high nitrogen fertilizer monthly. New seeding can be planted with good results, but seedlings require frequent watering to keep tender roots moist. Mow all lawns regularly to keep seed heads removed and to keep thatch from building up too high.

Provide citrus trees with adequate moisture (deep), and apply their monthly citrus fertilizer. Yellowing leaves may indicate chlorotic tendencies; in such cases apply a chelated material or iron sulfate. Bermuda lawns often go through this yellowing phase where iron is locked up in the soil and need the chelate treatment. Other plants that often suffer from chlorosis also include pyracantha, bottle brush, eucalyptus, roses, and some annuals. *LACK OF IRON*

Watch for excess moisture in slow draining caliche or clay soils by checking for a green scum build-up on the surface.

Control the excess growth of Bermuda grass in flower beds or other areas with Dowpon (Dalapon) while growth is active. Apply carefully, read instructions on the label before using.

You can get good results during hot weather when you plant subtropical hibiscus, bougainvillea, Natal plum, lantana, oleander, palms and gardenias due to the warm soil condition. Pruning is also advisable during the summer months to get control of excess growth or to keep younger plants shaped or thinned. Espaliered plants require attention to the control of tip growth as well as the training of new side growth. Use plastic ties only, they expand with the growth of stems and prevent cutting of growth. □

How is your garden growing? If you have a question or a problem, send a letter with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Eric Johnson, Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, California 92260.

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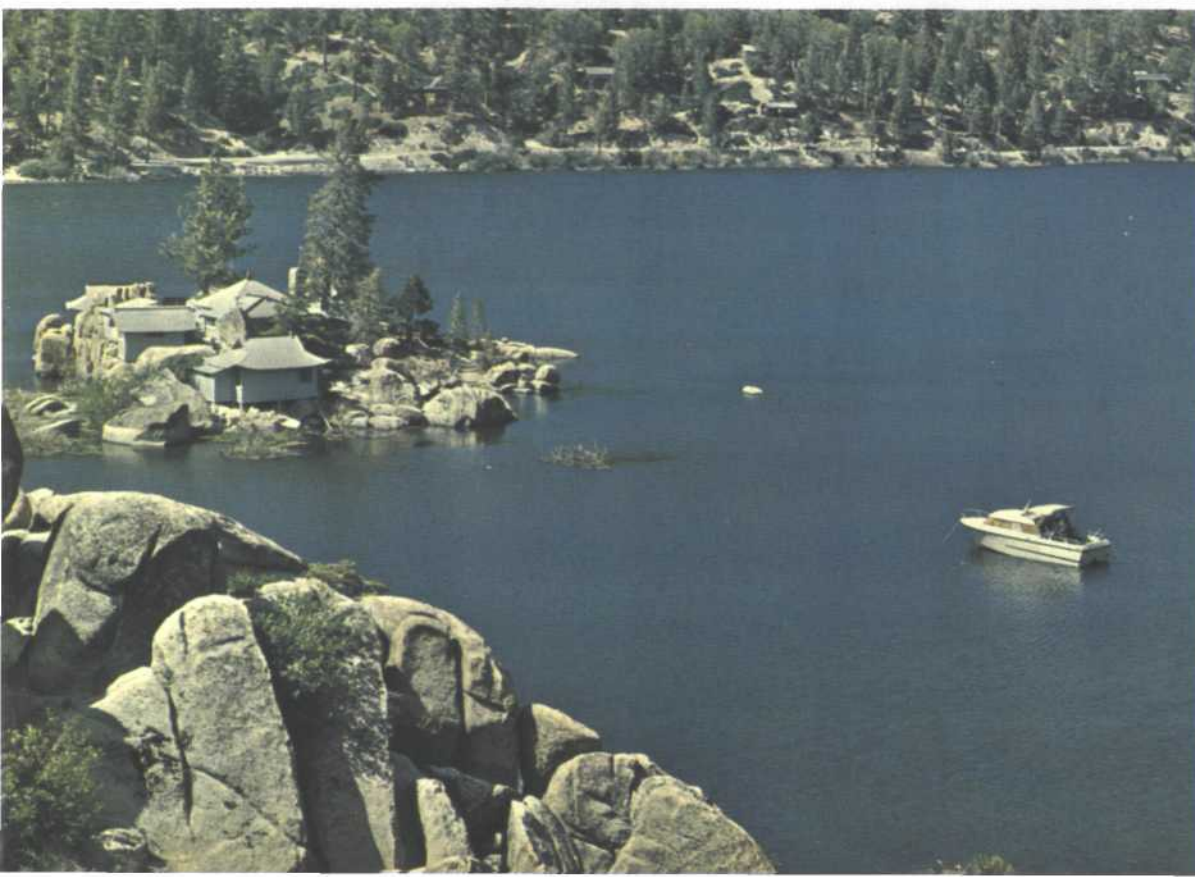
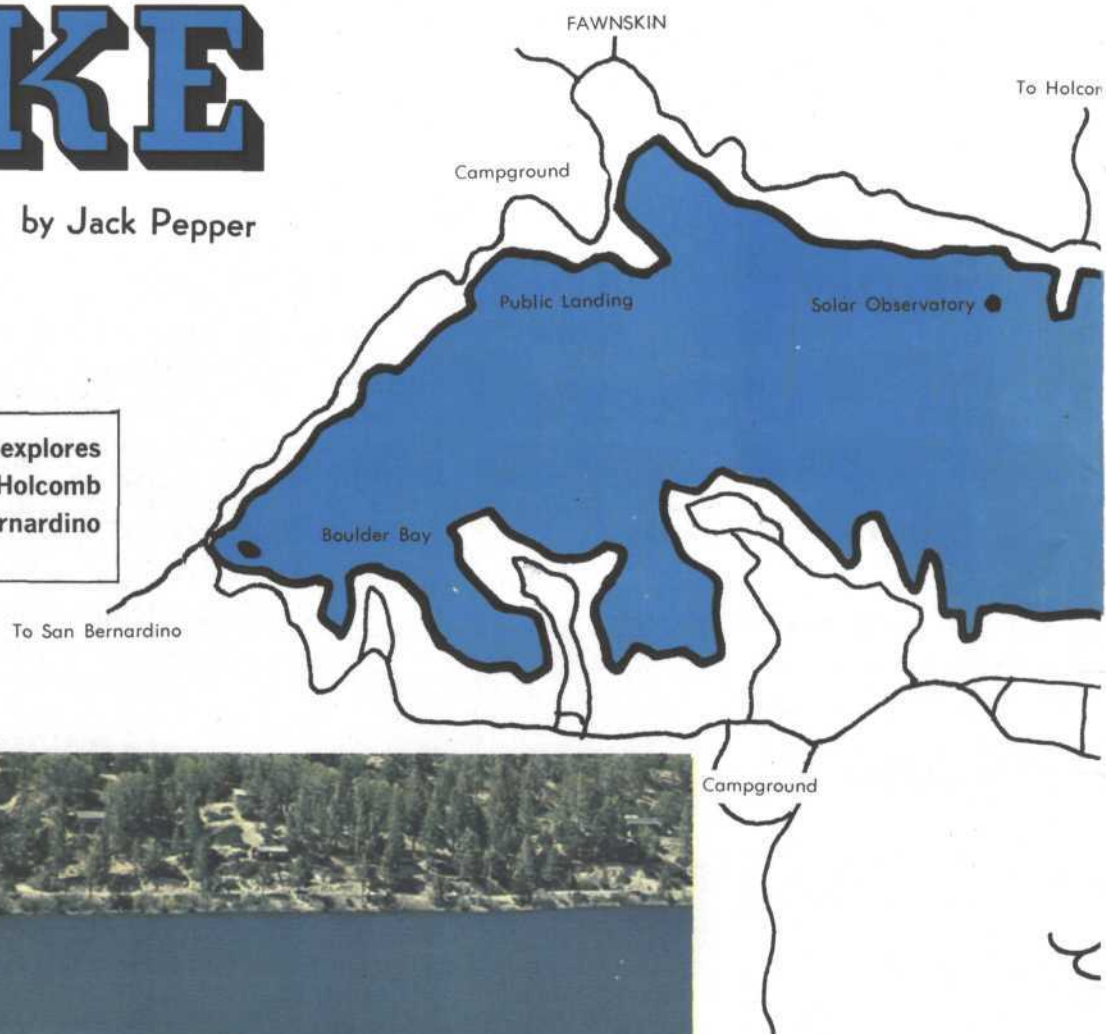


BIG BEAR LAKE

by Jack Pepper

Desert Safari

This month's Desert Safari explores Big Bear Lake and historic Holcomb Valley in California's San Bernardino National Forest.

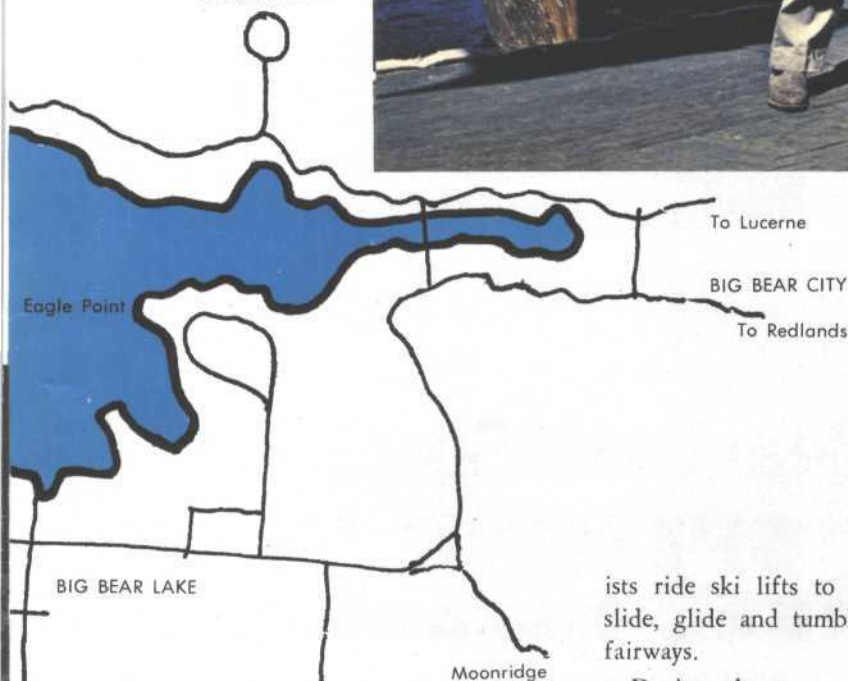


Treasure Island Bay is one of the many scenic coves around the lake.

An Oriental style home nestles among the giant boulders on the island near the dam.

nb Valley

Ranger Station



Big Bear Lake fishermen usually catch their limit of trout and bass such as these beauties held by three anglers. Fishing is a year 'round activity.

One of the most colorful of western events staged annually in California, "Old Miner's Days," also includes fast-draw gun-slinging contests, rodeos, dancing, whiskerino contests, melodramas, steak fries and a myriad of other fun events lasting from morning until night.

Big Bear Valley was first discovered in 1845 by a posse of ranchers from San Bernardino chasing a band of renegade Indians. Led by Don Benito Wilson, the posse followed the Santa Ana River into the then unexplored San Bernardino Mountains.

On the second day out they camped "in a swampy area that seemed alive with bears." The astonished Indian hunters temporarily turned animal hunters and killed 11 bears before pursuing their human prey. After subduing the Indians, they retraced their trail and killed 11 more bears. Don Benito Wilson named the area Big Bear Valley.

As a result of the discovery, the mountains were invaded by hunters and trappers who found another bonus in the valley gold. Millions of dollars were taken out of Holcomb Valley before the "color" was exhausted. (See article on Holcomb Valley elsewhere in this issue.)

By 1880 the mining camps were ghost towns and cattle raising was the main in-

ists ride ski lifts to the top and then, slide, glide and tumble down the white fairways.

During the summer fishermen catch trout and bass from the man-made lake and history buffs explore the historic area for traces of grizzly bears, Indians and gold.

Although the bears and Indians have long since vanished and only a little of the placer gold remains in the mountain streams, the memory of those historic years is revived every August when the residents stage the week-long "Old Miner's Days." This year it will be held August 1 through 9.

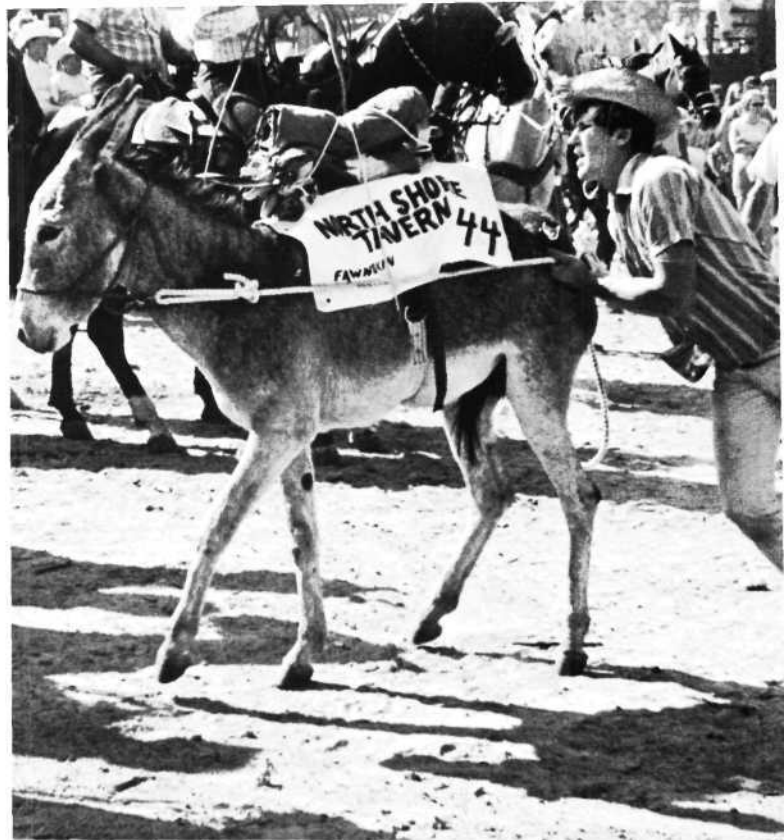
One of the main events of the week, according to the annual *Old Miner's Gazette*, is the "17 Anuel Jackass Rase set for Awgust 6, 7, & 8 with Fourty Too Myel Contest Covering 3 Daze and Nits." This means that for three days intrepid modern-day prospectors race untamed burros around the lake in search of cheers, fame and cash prizes.

NESTLED IN A verdant valley in the San Bernardino Mountains, more than 6000 feet above the surrounding deserts, Big Bear Lake is one of Southern California's most diversified and historic recreational areas.

Big Bear Valley lies within the San Bernardino National Forest where there are 70,000 acres of cool forests and meadows which easily accommodate the thousands of campers, fishermen and hikers visiting the area throughout the year.

Yet this smog-free Shangrila is reached from all areas of Southern California over excellent paved highways and is less than three hours driving time from Los Angeles.

During the winter its slopes are covered with snow as skiers and toboggan-



The Fast Draw Contest is one of the highlights of "Old Miner's Days" to be held August 1 through 9. A three-day burro race around Big Bear Lake is another of the

many festivities staged during the week-long celebration. It is one of the most colorful "go Western" events held in California.



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dustry. In 1885 the Bear Valley Land and Water Company was formed to build a dam to supply water to citrus growers and the San Bernardino area.

When the present dam was built in 1911 it created Big Bear Lake and on completion of the Rim of the World Highway in 1915, Big Bear Valley's future as a resort and recreation area was assured. The second dam was built by the Bear Valley Mutual Water Company, which today administers the lake.

Surrounded by pine-covered hills and giant sandstone boulders, the glistening lake is nine miles long and approximately one and a half miles wide. Laced into the mountainsides are picturesque coves dotted with lodges, rustic cabins and homes.

For fishermen the lake is regularly stocked with bass and trout. These game fish can be caught either from boats or from the many miles of shoreline. Complete marinas on both the north and south shores provide all types of boats and fishing supplies for anglers who can fish the year around. A California fishing license is required.

A fee for use of the lake is charged from those bringing their own boats. Boats under 12 feet and rubber rafts are not allowed on the lake. Rules and regulations of the lake are available at the launching ramps or marinas. On my first visit to the lake I brought my own



Olin Hammonds, Paramount, Calif., holds a five-pound Rainbow trout.



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BIG BEAR VALLEY INFORMATION

The Big Bear Valley Chamber of Commerce has an excellent information center under the direction of Mrs. Gloria Holt. For facts on campgrounds, accommodations, celebrations, weather, or whether the fish are biting (which they usually are) write P. O. Box 2860, Big Bear Lake, California 92315, or call Area Code 714 866-4601.

A listing of public campgrounds and a recreation map of the San Bernardino Mountains can also be obtained free from the Big Bear Ranger District Headquarters, Fawnskin, California 92333. The Headquarters telephone number is Area Code 714 866-3437.



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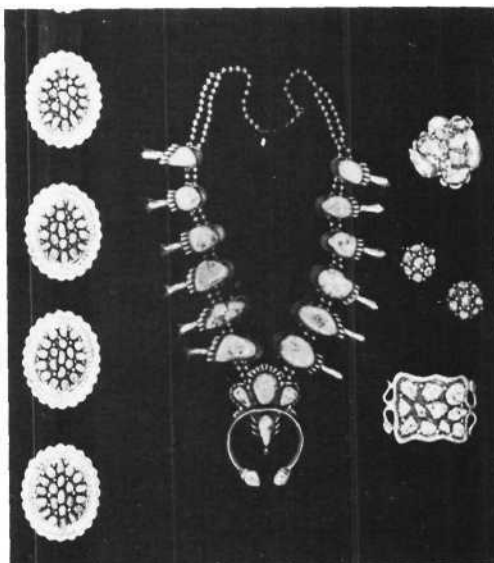
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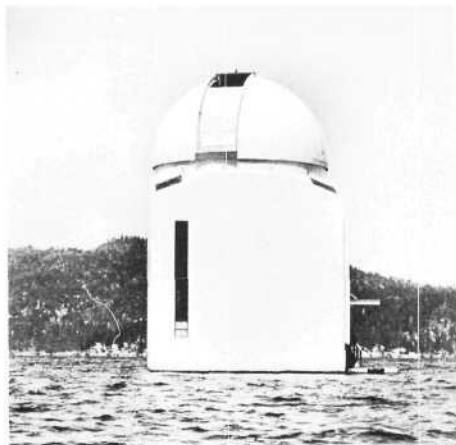


boat. Since then I have found it easier and just as economical to rent a boat rather than towing my own.

Many of the hundreds of lodges have their own boat docking facilities with individual cabins and cottages overlooking the coves. You can step out of your cabin, catch a trout and within a few minutes sit down to a delicious fish dinner. All you have to buy is the tartar sauce!

For the non-fishermen, the lake provides water skiing and swimming from the beaches. Although swimming from boats is prohibited, a favorite pastime is to rent a boat and pull onto a sandy beach for a day of picnicking, sun-bathing and swimming. Water skiers find the placid waters excellent for this aquatic sport. A boat ride on the lake, especially in the early morning and evening, is a relaxing and soothing retreat.

When boating on the north side of the lake, don't be surprised when you see a white dome-like structure rising from the water about 100 yards off-shore. It's not a flying saucer. Built by the California Institute of Technology and the Carnegie Institute, it is a solar observatory for photographing and studying the sun. It seems these studies are hindered by heat waves from the earth, so they built the structure on the lake. The last time I boated by the observatory, one



This recently completed solar observatory is surrounded by water and is a favorite spot for trout fishermen.

of the scientists was very busy—pulling in a bass from the structure's landing ramp.

A paved highway circles the lake with many vista points offering panoramic views of the clear blue water contrasted with the green pines on the surrounding cliffs and white clouds above. Be sure and bring your cameras.

Along this highway are communities and facilities for the traveler, ranging from modern motels to rustic lodges,

Continued on page 36.



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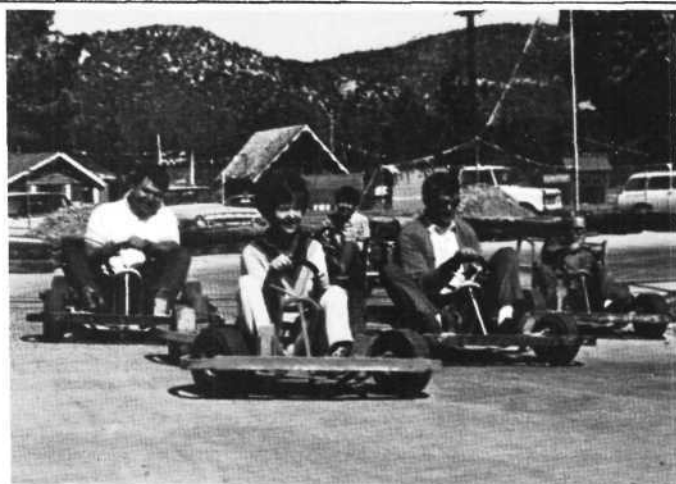
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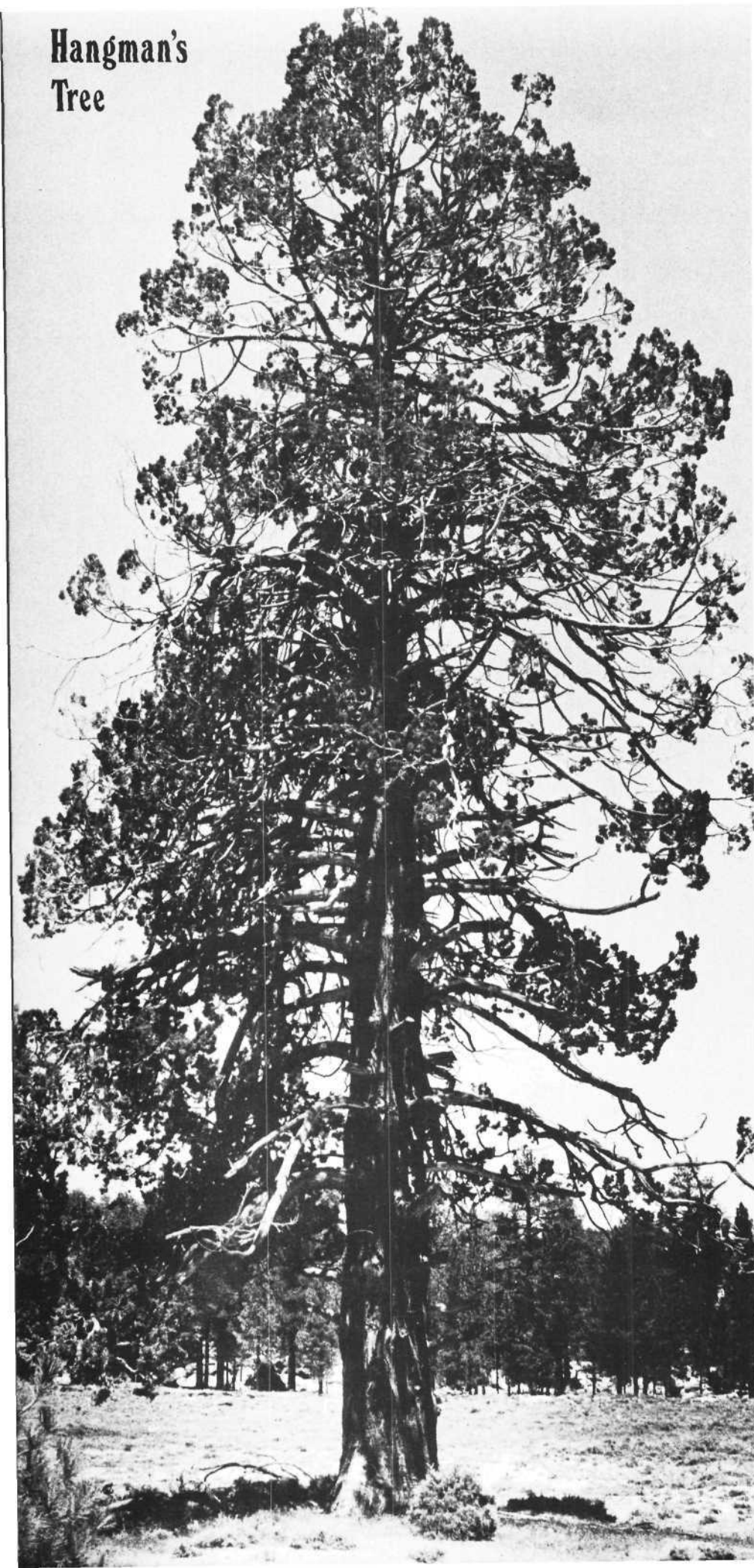
AFTER YOU have caught your limit of fish and taken advantage of the many recreational facilities in the immediate area of Big Bear Valley, take a trip into the past and visit the nearby mining camps which reached their heyday more than 100 years ago.

There are good graded roads for passenger cars into these back country areas. From these graded roads dirt trails go to even more remote sites which can, however only be reached by four-wheel-drive vehicles.

A spectacular view of Big Bear Lake and the surrounding area can be seen from the newly developed connection between the Delamar Mountain Road which leaves Fawnskin and the Holcomb Valley Road. This connection (usually called the Blue Quartz Road) is easily negotiated by passenger cars, but not recommended for large campers or trailers.

One of the most interesting passenger car junkets is through Holcomb Valley just north of Big Bear. The trip is 12 miles and takes approximately three hours. In their informative brochure, rangers of the San Bernardino National Forest call this self-guided tour the "Gold Fever Trail."

And gold fever it was that changed this small, peaceful valley from a secluded home of bear and deer into one of the most boisterous and rip-roaring mining





Big Bear Lake (above) as seen from scenic Blue Quartz Road, 1000 feet above the blue water. Patricia Sager (right) examines what was once Two Gun Bill's Saloon. Edgar Allen, Ontario, Calif., (below) found several flecks of gold while panning in Holcomb Valley. Pump is part of a gold-dredge.

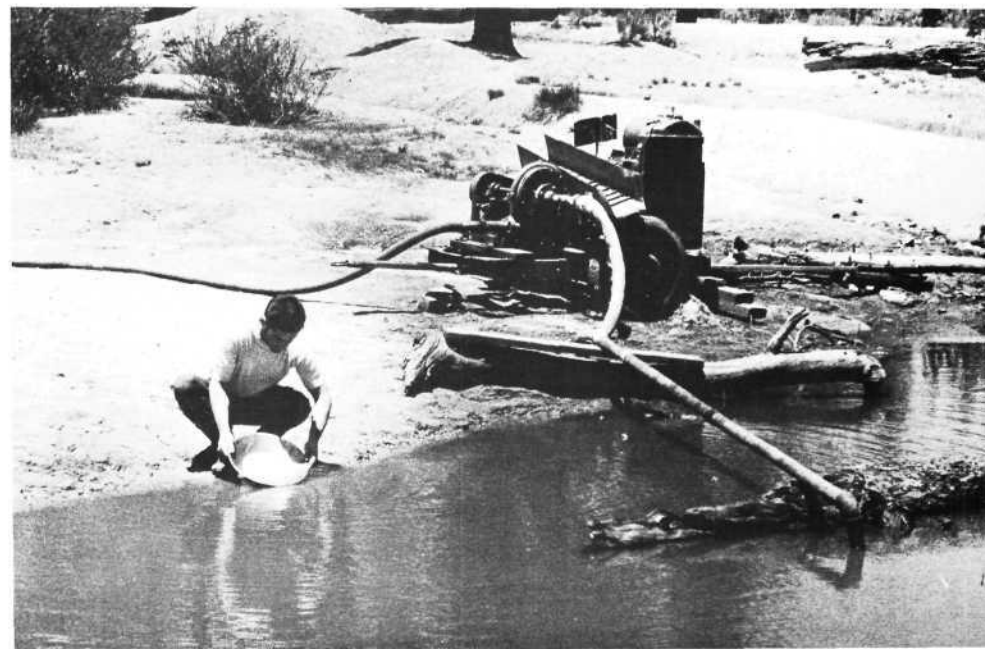


camps of the Old West. More than 50 murders were committed during its short span of 20 years.

It all started in 1860 when William "Billy" Holcomb shot a grizzly in Bear Valley and then trailed the wounded animal over the mountain and into the valley which today bears his name. While resting he picked up a piece of quartz. It was laced with gold!

Within a few weeks there wasn't a pack animal left in San Bernardino, the jumping-off place for the trail up the Santa Ana riverbed to Holcomb Valley. And within two years there were an estimated 1500 prospectors jammed into the small valley.

A town soon grew on a rich flat near Holcomb's original discovery site. In addition to the many saloons, there was



Continued on page 38



Rocky Cave Landing extends 150 feet from shore into deep water.

CALIFORNIA'S PISMO BEACH is famous the world over as the home of the Pismo clam, but it wasn't the clams that interested the robbers and rounders of a century and more ago. What did interest them about this stretch of rocky shoreline extending north from Pismo Beach almost to the present resort of Avila

were the caves in the face of the cliffs. They were an excellent place to hide their loot.

Even before the time of the padres, Cave Landing was a stopping place. It is a natural pier, an immense level rock that juts out from the shoreline 150 feet into deep water. Indians used the small

Did robbers conceal their loot in the many small Indian caves?



by J. S. Paul

potholes high in the cliffs to bury their dead.

The padres used Cave Landing as the prime shipping point for nearby Mission San Luis Obispo, sending out tallow and hides and bringing in supplies. About 1860 a certain David Mallagh took over the landing. The rock, of course, was still by its nature, accessible to the public, but Mallagh built a warehouse on private property at the top of the cliff. He built a chute and hoist to move cargo and drove iron spikes to secure large rings into the rock. These were for securing ships' cables and remain today. Cave Landing, besides being distinctive, is a landmark on our hunt for the pirate caves.

Robber's Cave, most prominent of the clifside openings, is the focal point for present treasure searches, but is by no means the only possibility. It got its name from the fact that down through the years several small troves have been uncovered there, but, if even half the stories they tell about the place are true, there is plenty more for the hunter with the luck and/or perseverance to find it.

Cliffs with potholes and caves extend along this section of coast from Pismo to Avila but the Robbers Cave area is best reached by taking Cave Landing Road northwest from Shell Beach. There is a path that leads down the cliff to the



CAVES AT BEACH



Cave Landing and Robbers Cave as seen from southern trail.

beach. From the path both Arch Rock and the mouth of Robbers Cave are in view, with little Moonstone Beach in between. From the bottom it is an easy walk to the solid bulk of Cave Landing.

In the area of the caves the tide is the biggest variable, and without due consideration it is possible to get yourself "tided in." That is the major factor in walking the tiny rim of beach that appears at low tide; at high tide the rocks themselves are awash in many places, and walking back out is dangerous. This may be why more people haven't gone after the treasure. Still, a little thought and planning is all it really takes to beat the tide, and tide tables are readily available in stores and eating establishments all up and down the coast. Unfortunately the necessity of working around the tides makes exploring the caves a week-end rather than single day adventure.

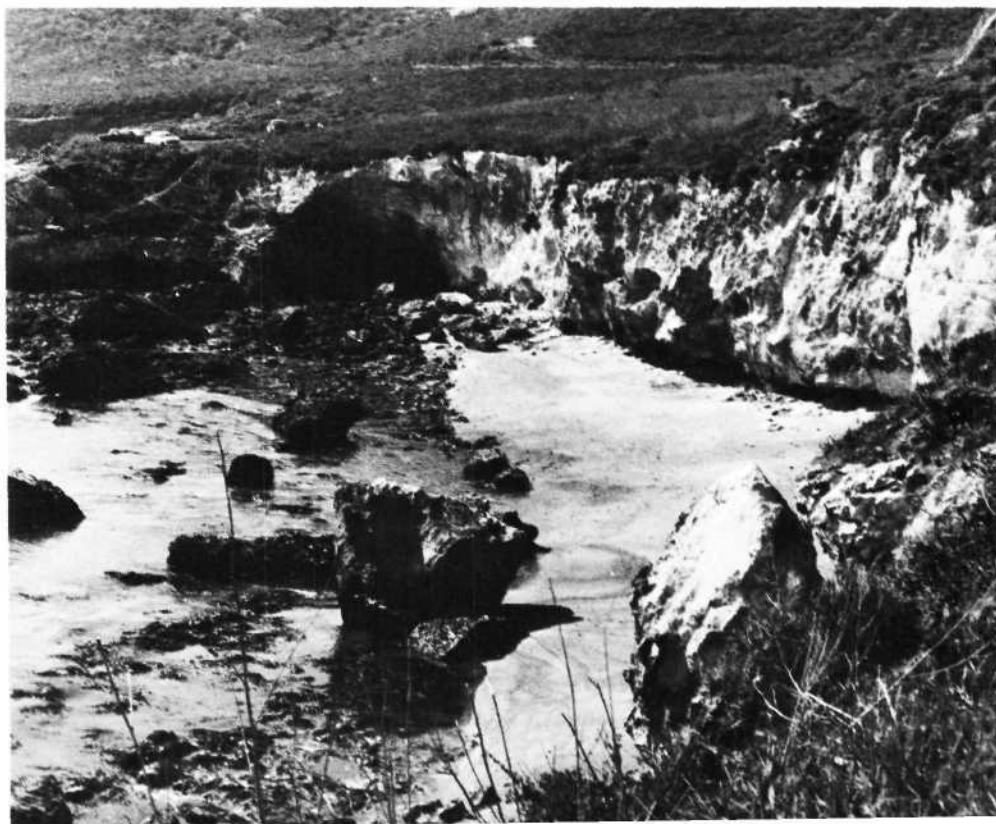
There are motels, and even a hotel, of every price and type, but the real adventure is in camping; the camps at Pismo are only a sand dune away from the ocean and fishing. Surfing and clamming are year-round sports. Also, the camper comes ideally prepared for the fullest enjoyment of all that the area has to offer, whether it be clams, fish, surf or treasure. All are a bit wet and sandy in the doing but the camper needn't worry;

he can get into something clean and dry without giving his landlord fits.

Unlike some of the coastal areas reached only by a roundabout way or through congested areas, Pismo can be reached easily and directly from any direction. Its camps and beaches are just off of U.S. 101, the main north-south route

between Los Angeles and San Francisco. From the east, State 46 from Bakersfield, or State 41 from Fresno are as direct as could be desired. Even by boat it's easy to find, although the nearest docking facilities are up the road at Avila, unless of course you want to try to come ashore as the pirates did, at Cave Landing. □

Robbers Cave, center, is focal point of most treasure hunts.



MINES OF

WITH THE establishment of the Mineral King mining district in the fall of 1873, a peaceful mountain valley suddenly came alive with prospectors and miners, eager to claim their share of the hidden silver wealth. Most had dreams of a second Comstock and the millions that could be made overnight. Few could imagine the years of struggle, the cold biting blizzards, the avalanches, and eventual financial ruin that awaited the pioneers of this beautiful alpine valley.

Mineral King, at an elevation of 7800 feet, is sheltered by lake-studded mountains that form the headwaters of the east fork of the Kaweah River in California's Sequoia National Forest. Though today's holiday weekends often see several hundred campers in the valley, the initial rush of nearly 100 prospectors was a hectic event in 1873. One writer stated: "Farmers left their farms, business men their businesses, stockmen their herds, and preachers their pulpits, all bound for the land of silver."

Announcements of the new discoveries spread throughout the state, and for the next ten years each spring brought a new wave of enthusiastic prospectors, miners, and business men into the valley. With each damaging winter came discouragement and destruction.

The townsite of Mineral King was established on the flat land south of the bend in the river. Of the several private cabins standing there today, only one dates back to the 1870s. It is the butcher shop built in 1879. It can be seen standing next to the road at the start of the trail to Timber Gap.

Immediately following the spring rush to the valley, the first buildings to go up were two saloons and two general merchandise stores. By the middle of summer, nearly 75 cabins had been completed and a large boarding house was open for business.

With a lot of mountain to prospect and only a little capital, most of the miners spent the first year prospecting and accomplishing only the necessary assessment work on their claims. Speculation, fanned by optimistic assays and enjoyable Sunday bull sessions, kept the enthusiasm for Mineral King alive throughout the year.

Early in 1879, the New England Tun-



MINERAL KING

by Mike Engle

LESS THAN 100 YEARS AGO MINERAL KING IN CALIFORNIA'S SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST WAS THE SITE OF A SILVER BOOM. TODAY, DISNEY ENTERPRISES PROPOSES TO BUILD A \$35 MILLION RECREATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE PEACEFUL VALLEY.

This pile of debris (left) was a barracks for miners. Rusting bucket (lower left) was capable of carrying 100 pounds of ore. Built in 1879, the butcher shop (below) is the oldest building in Mineral King today.

nel and Smelting Company announced it was operating in Mineral King. Much needed outside capital had arrived! Lavish plans for Mineral King were announced by the company. A new scientific wonder, the Burleigh Drill, was to be introduced to the mines. A sawmill would be built to supply the fuel for the fires of the soon-to-be-constructed furnace. The profits from the first shipment of bullion from the furnace, it was promised, would be used to build a good wagon road to serve the valley.

But first things first! Claims had to be bought and stock had to be sold. The eager miners were quick to relinquish their claims, only to find that they were not to be paid in cash. They exchanged their claims for shares of stock in the new company. To the cautious few, it was explained; they would now have an opportunity to participate in all the wealth of the valley. If the mines proved to be as rich as all presumed, they would all share in the benefits; if the mines should fail, the men would be no worse off than before.

Claims were easily secured by the company, but cash for the sale of stock was hard to get. First one, then another assessment was levied against the outstanding stock. Many miners, with no money to pay the assessments, were forced to surrender their stock; others worked out their assessments at the rate of \$3.00 a day in the same mines that were once their own.

Through the succeeding years of financial hardship, little mining was accomplished by the New England Tunnel and Smelting Company. The sawmill was finished, but the furnace proved to be the design of an amateur. As one witness described it; when it was first fired up causing the top to melt and cave in, it resembled "a rotten pumpkin that had been stepped on." The road was never built and the Burleigh Drill never arrived. By the end of 1877, the company, by then known throughout the valley as the New England Thieving and Swindling Company, was forced into bankruptcy by the creditors.

After the failure of the company, the spring and early summer of 1878 saw little activity in the valley. By the end of the year, though, things were once again looking up. Outside capital was said to

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Fullerton, California

be available once more. This time the investor was Tom Fowler, California's State Senator, a well-respected citizen of the county.

Enthusiasm for the wealth of Mineral King once again reigned supreme when Fowler announced his purchase of the Empire Mine. During the summer of 1879 sure signs of progress could be seen. A log cabin at Empire Springs and another one at the mine were being constructed. The Mineral King Wagon and Toll Road Company, with over 100 men on the payroll, had been organized to construct a suitable road into the valley. When the road was officially opened in August, an estimated 150 wagons loaded with supplies for the stores, saloons, restaurants, and families streamed into Mineral King.

High up on Empire Mountain, a short road was constructed between Timber Gap and the Empire Mine so that lumber and timber could be easily transported to the mine. A new Hallidie Wire Ropeway, or cable tram, between the mine and the new stamp mill on the valley floor was planned. The ropeway, over a mile in length and 2000 feet from end to end in elevation, would be capable of transporting 72 tons of ore in a 24 hour period.

The old sawmill had been put back into operation and a crew of 20 men, working day and night, were unable to keep up with the demand for lumber. Construction was booming and every day saw new homes and businesses completed.

During the fall of 1879, a new warehouse for the Empire Mine and a huge public tent hotel were opened for business. Besides these, and the new medical practice opened by Dr. Pegg, other new businesses included a blacksmith, a stage and livery stable, a barber, a butcher, a shoemaker, a dairy, a general store and another saloon.

With the advent of winter, the miners were at peace with the world; prosperity was just around the corner. The new stamp mill was in operation and the tram was bringing loaded buckets of ore down the mountain. Things could not have been more hopeful; but no one could have predicted a winter as severe as the one that approached. Early snows blocked the toll road and the stage and



freight lines closed down. Fowler had decided to work his crews at the mine and mill through the winter months. Despite heavy crushing snows and icy winds, a few families stayed on in Mineral King.

As the winter snowfall became deeper, the men had difficulty getting from their nearby barracks to the mine. Below, on the valley floor, snow built up to a record depth of 27 feet, crushing not only the roofs of many of the cabins but destroying part of the mill.

All through the winter and into the early months of spring, the heavy snows built up. Then, before dawn on April 17, 1879, disaster struck! The heavy snowpack at the top of Empire Mountain began to slip and move, silently building in volume as it churned down the steep mountain. Trees buckled and broke, boulders were torn loose and hurtled into the night. Ripping a swath of destruction a half mile wide and two miles long, the avalanche churned relentlessly to the valley floor.

At the mine, injured men struggled to free themselves from tons of snow and the rubble of their splintered barracks. Only four had escaped unhurt. Nearly naked and struggling through the dark in ice and snow up to their armpits, they



made their way down the mountain in search of aid for their injured comrades.

With the destruction of the barracks, the men lost nearly all of their possessions including an \$1100 payroll. Only Pete Farrell, who found his trousers weeks later, was able to salvage a hundred dollars from his pockets.

Though much reconstruction took place during the next year or two, work at the mines was sporadic. The avalanche was the beginning of the end of the great dream of Mineral King. Gradually the heavy winter snows crushed the buildings and swept them away. By 1887, all that remained of the mill was the engine and boiler. The tramway cable was later taken to the community of Three Rivers, and now supports a bridge across the Kaweah River.

Today, Mineral King can be reached in a passenger car or camper by a 25 mile winding road which leaves State Highway 198 just above the community of Three Rivers. Though there are no motel facilities or camper's supplies at Mineral King, they are available at Three Rivers. Mineral King's two Forest Service campgrounds and many primitive campsites along the East Fork of the Kaweah River, as well as the many trails

and excellent fishing, beckon the wilderness enthusiast. A commercial packer operates from the valley each summer when the steep trails see the dust of many hooves and cleated boots as hundreds of ardent campers seek the beauty the Sierra Nevada's back country offers.

With the exception of the butcher shop, the signs of Mineral King's past can no longer be found on the valley floor. For the hiker, the trail to Timber Gap, and on to the Empire Mine, can be a rewarding experience. The trail passes the fallen remains of a tramway support with a tumbled down log cabin at its base. The old wagon road which crosses the mountain from Timber Gap to the mine entrance can still be followed. Beside it huge stacks of firewood are piled where they were left nearly a century ago.

Protected in the stand of timber below the mine can be found all that is left of the barracks built the year following the avalanche.

With a knowledge of the past, one wonders as he walks through this alpine valley, if the finding of an old bottle or relic of a bygone era might not change "Failure at Mineral King" to a weekend of success! □

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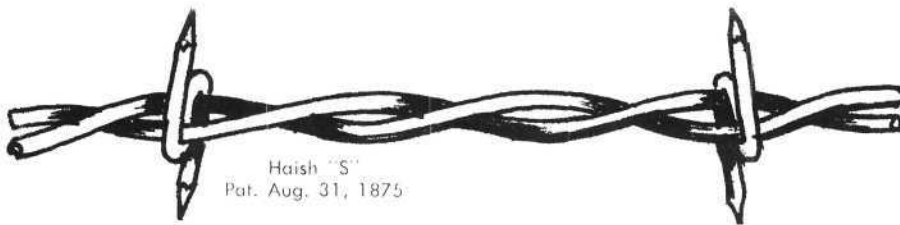
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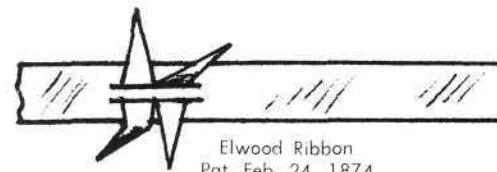
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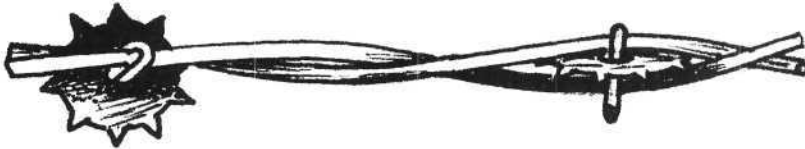


Haish "S"
Pat. Aug. 31, 1875



Elwood Ribbon
Pat. Feb. 24, 1874

Hooked



Hodge Spur Rowel
Pat. Aug. 2, 1887

WHEN I walked into the Wagon Train Rock and Souvenir Shop in Custer, South Dakota to browse around, I never dreamed I would walk out an avid collector of barbed wire. Once the proprietors, Andy and Irene Svoboda, showed me their collection of "barbs," I became fascinated. I had never realized that there were so many different kinds of wire and so many interesting variations, or what a story barbed wire had to tell.

The next time you see some barbed wire, look closely. The wire may be made from different materials such as copper, steel, bare iron or galvanized iron. Also, the wire may be round, oval, or square and of different gauges. Check to see if the barbs are made of round or flat wire, and whether they're twisted or wrapped once or several times around a strand of wire. Are the barbs on a single wire or between two or more wires and are they crimped, twisted or even welded on the wire? Are the barbs made of staples, nails, tacks, rowels, or flat iron strap which is notched or sawtoothed?

Now you can begin to visualize how many variations of barbed wire there are. Spacing of barbs is important also. Larger spacing was for cattle wire, smaller spacing for hog wire, and irregular spacing could mean an original home-made wire. Barbless braided and ribbon wires were generally used for horse wire because ranchers disliked the prospects of marking up horseflesh.

Michael Kelly's Diamond Point (or "thorny wire") was the first to use two twisted wires with metal barbs that would stay in place. His original barbs were diamond-shaped sheet metal. Later variations had staples inserted between the stamped-out diamond barbs or had barbs that were notched, probably for ease of hammering or crimping them onto the wire. Though the diamond point was considered cruel to livestock, Kelly had the foresight to add in his patent a strand of rope-like material saturated with tar so that the cattle could see the fence by day and smell it by night.

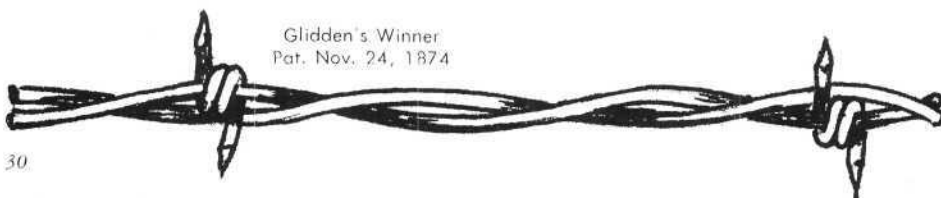
Barbed wire really came into its own in 1873 when three men, farmer Joseph Glidden, merchant Isaac Elwood, and lumberman Jacob Haish, saw a wooden rail with short wire points protruding from it. The idea belonged to a farmer by the name of Henry Rose who was exhibiting it at the County Fair in De Kalb, Illinois. This rail was capable of being attached to existing fences to turn livestock. Rose is said to have first attached the rail to his cow's head to discourage her from pushing her way through the fence. He quickly realized how impractical this was and attached it to the fence.

Smooth galvanized wire had been in use for many years when Glidden twisted the first barbs on a single strand with the aid of a coffee grinder. As there was nothing to keep the barbs

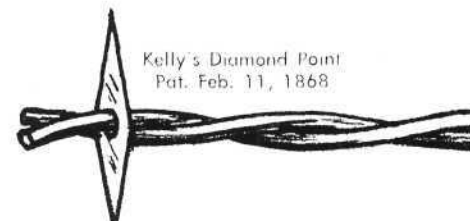
Glidden was dilatory and delayed applying for his patent until Elwood prodded him. Meanwhile, Haish received three patents in 1874, one for a wire stretcher and two for wire. Haish, having seen Glidden's unpatented wire, hurriedly filed a patent infringement suit against him hoping to delay Glidden's patent long enough to patent his own Haish "S" wire.

If there had been no machinery for its mass production, barbed wire could not have grown into the industry it did. Washburn & Moen, a wire company, developed a machine that would make the Haish "S" wire, so Washburn went to see Haish to buy his patent. Haish, expecting to bargain, asked \$200,000 whereupon Washburn went to see Glidden. Glidden asked for and got \$60,000 plus royalties for his half interest in his partnership.

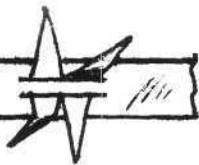
The greatest salesman of barbed wire was John Warne Gates and small wonder. He once stood on the outside of a barbed wire corral in Texas and got cowhands to annoy the cattle on the other side of the wire. These steers were the "Cimarrons," meaning the wild ones. Descendants of Spanish cattle, they were introduced into the west by the conquistadors and were naturally mean and ornery. The steers would charge the fence in front of Gates in an effort to escape. Luckily, the barbed wire held. It was a great sales gimmick, but one can speculate it would have had a rather



Glidden's Winner
Pat. Nov. 24, 1874



Kelly's Diamond Point
Pat. Feb. 11, 1868



Baker Perfect
Pat. Feb. 27, 1883

On Wire

by Lee Burch

Crandall Champion
Pat. Nov. 4, 1879



drastic effect on barbed wire sales if it hadn't.

In the Eastern states, fences were usually made from whatever was plentiful, rocks from the fields or timber from the forests. On the plains of the mid and southwest, timber and rocks were scarce so thorny hedges became popular. However, hedges took too long to grow and were havens for small animals that fed on the crops. Also, hedges were usually infested with snakes. Wood fencing rotted, was easily broken down, needed constant upkeep and was often destroyed by prairie fires. In addition, it offered a temptation to drifters who needed firewood. Barbed wire had none of these disadvantages. It took up virtually no land space, wouldn't blow over, needed no pruning, permitted close plowing, and took no water or nourishment from the soil.

Early settlers cleared the scrub brush around their fields, piling the brush at the edges of the clearing as an improvised fence. From a distance this looked like a large nest, thus the term "nester" came into being. The homesteader had to fence out herds of cattle, buffalo and other game to save his crops. Thus fencing things out, not in, was the primary use of barbed wire. Wire, together with the railroads and quarantine laws against fever-carrying ticks, heralded the end of the famous overland cattle drives.

When I look at "bob wire" or bobwarr," it conjures up visions of a des-

perado throwing up a fence across a public road to demand a toll, a rancher fencing a precious water hole so no one else can use it, night riders cutting fences in reprisal, or a sodbuster standing with his rifle at his fence line defending his land against the drovers herding cattle eastward. Such incidents resulted in the range wars that lasted for years until fencing finally became generally accepted.

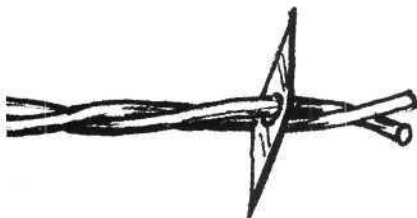
A barbed wire sample must be 18 inches long, preferably, with at least two barbs on it. For those who would become wire-hounds, there are several interesting books on identification, prices, and historical background. Don't expect to complete a collection of barbed wire as there are hundreds of different kinds, depending on how many one-of-a-kind there may be. Added to the 401 patents for barbed wire issue by 1900 (approximately half of which originated from Illinois), there are more than a 1000 variations depending upon how many improvised types were made. Most of the innovations and unique designs appeared prior to 1890, and there has been little change in from sliding along the wire, he wound another strand of wire around the first, called it the "Winner," and eventually got his patent on November 24, 1874. Fortunately for Glidden, this type of wire proved to be the most popular of all time. Elwood realized that Glidden's wire was better than his own patented wire and wisely asked to be Gliddens' partner, paying \$265 for the privilege that was to make him wealthy.

barbed wire in recent years. Many improvised wires weren't patented and those wires that were patented weren't necessarily manufactured.

Professional collectors use metal detectors and even helicopters to search out places likely to have old barbed wire. Just like old bottles, old wire is found in dumps, long abandoned farms and ranches, and where new fences have replaced old ones. Most standing fences you'll see today are of recent vintage. Your prize discovery could be the piece of wire you'll find half-buried in some mound of dirt as you hike along a country road. If you do find any old wire, be sure to get an extra piece for trading purposes. Remember, fences are erected for a purpose and you should never cut a standing fence. There's still a law in Texas making fence cutting a felony.

As with everything else, the value of wire depends on its age and how rare it is. Reproductions of antique wire can be purchased as well as kits to make your own barbed wire. Beware of antique wire copies which have been treated with salt and buried for a period of time for rusting and aging purposes. This makes it look genuine to novice collectors. Counterfeit wire will have sharp barbs and a surface coating of rust that should scratch off easily.

For memorabilia collectors, barbed wire can become a rewarding hobby. Whether you become a wirehound or not, I'm glad I became a barb-arian! □



Upham Snail Barb
Pat. Sept. 4, 1883



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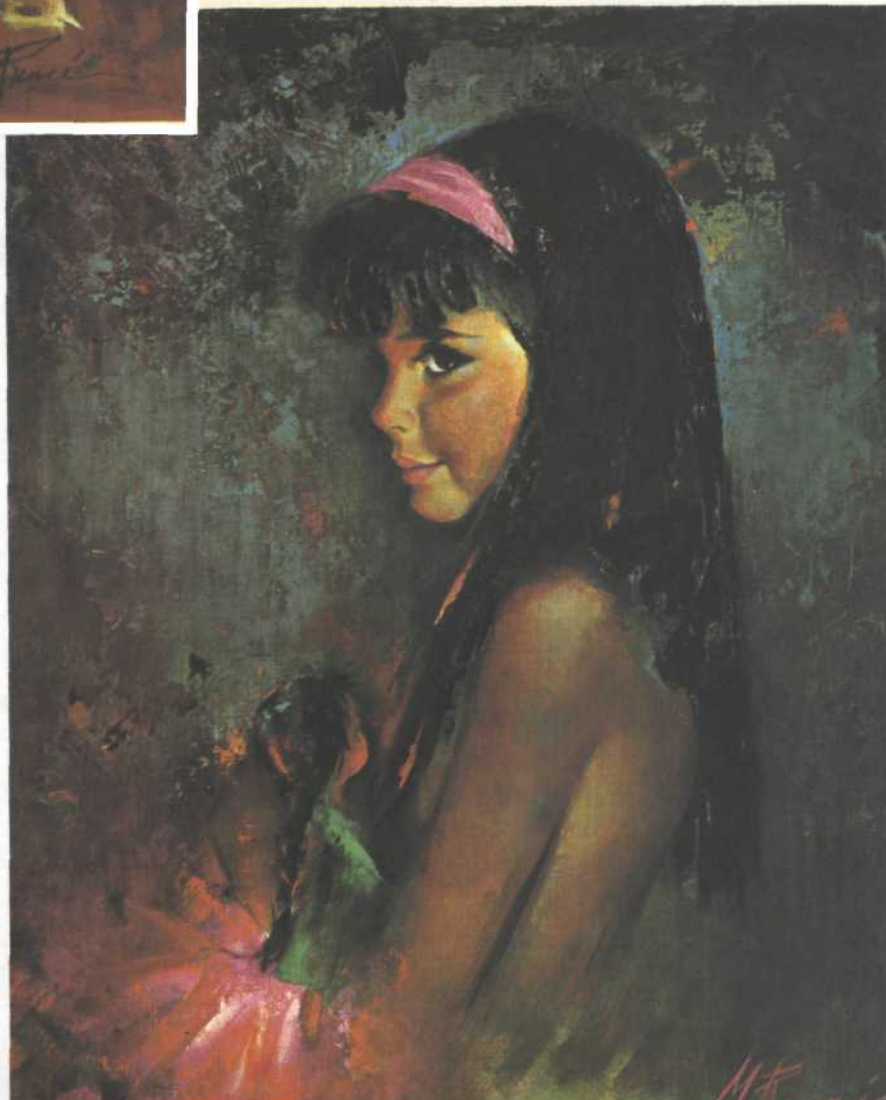
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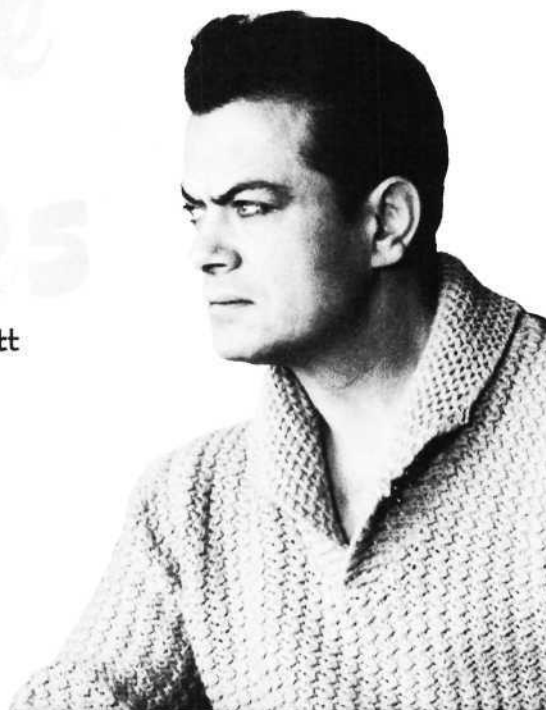
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Palettes

in the Pines

by Bill Knyvett



AMONG THE pines in the peaceful community of Moonridge, in California's San Bernardino Mountains, is as serene a spot as one could wish to find. Two people, Edward and Maxine Runci, found that spot and designed and built their home right there.

Situated on four acres of wooded hillside they have erected a studio and art gallery that took some creativity.

And creativity is what Edward and Maxine seem to have in inexhaustible supply. From a large entry way you are drawn into a huge room that features a massive beam and great expanses of rock work. A beautiful setting for the multitude of canvases that grace the walls. Rough-finished paneling and heavy slab table and bar tops help create an atmosphere not too remote from a castle.

In this case, Edward is king of

the castle and is known internationally for his portraits and landscapes. With the jet-age in full-swing, Ed travels worldwide to catch his subjects in his camera lens and then retreats to The Gallery and his oils and brushes.

Queen Maxine has a special talent for children's portraits and paints with a softness that captures the innocence of youth and those beguiling little glances that are so brief.

Both Ed and Maxine are noted for their outstanding work in the commercial art field, specifically calendar art. They have chosen this tranquil alpine setting as their base of operations and in so doing have accomplished that somewhat difficult to reach plateau in life where life is just the way they want it.

The castle security is entrusted to "Diamond Lil", a very able German Shepherd, while domestic

help on the animal side is provided by their beautiful white cat "Tiger" and the "baby", a black French poodle who answers to "Monet."

Rounding out the Runci retinue is their daughter Drienne, subject of many beautiful paintings by both her father and mother.

The Runcis hold court every Saturday, Sunday and holiday from 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Both are charming, witty and hospitable and seem oblivious to the rare talents they each possess. But their love of art, their sensitivity and delicate touch and understanding of their subjects is forever with them as they share their enthusiasm with you.

For a memorable experience, plan to visit them, and you'll be glad you shared their palettes in the pines

Besides that, they'll treat you royally!

TIOGA HILL TRAIL

Continued from page 13

the southwest. The last climb is up a rocky ridge which forms the national park's eastern boundary. And there to the west, just over Yosemite's back fence, in a bleak, windswept valley are the historic remnants of Dana Village.

Here are the stacked slate shelters that were a necessity for survival. The Great Sierra Cabin, with its massive stone fireplace, has two-foot thick walls, constructed without the benefit of mortar. Now inhabited only by wood rats, it once provided adequate shelter from the severest Sierra storm for the exiles of Dana Village.

Here also are the two shafts, now water filled, which were sunk into the hill, in a futile attempt to tap Tioga's wealth. A cast iron lifting winch lies abandoned nearby. Other fragments of machinery rust upon the rocky slope. During the short summer, purple blue blossoms of mountain pentstemon rise from the reddish rocks coloring the drab scene and covering the mute evidence of the miners' toil and heartbreak.

For a time, this settlement on the top of Tioga Hill held such promise the government authorized a post office for the location to be known as Dana. However, the salary of \$12.25 a year for the lofty post was not quite enough to persuade the appointee to desert the civilized comforts of Yosemite Valley and climb Tioga Hill. Those who hike to the ruins of Dana will probably agree with the village's reluctant postmaster. □



Once resembling little fat green Christmas Trees, the pine cones open into brown rosettes with two piñon seeds within each wing.

DOING NUTTING

Continued from page 7

other method is to take a round stone bowl with a very small hole in the bottom. Then with a small pointed rock called a "tusu" work the latter around and around through the nut meats pushing the finely ground nuts through the small bottom hole. In either case before starting the procedure the tip of each nut has to be broken off because, being of a brownish tinge it colors the resulting mush.

After the grinding the nut particles are put through a very finely meshed winnowing basket so the final result is like fine flour. This is now mixed with water, the amount used conforming to the consistency desired and the whole kneaded, much like bread dough. The mixture is now ready for consumption.

It is often eaten just as is. Some however, put it in a bowl, sprinkle with sugar and eat with a spoon.

Other tribes than the Paiutes probably have their own ways of treating pine nuts. There is plenty of chance for diversification as the piñon tree is in no danger of dying out. It is the only single-leaf pine known and it is never knowingly planted. It is too slow a grower to attract gardeners and is not even a very handsome tree. Hardy to many altitudes and types of soil, some trees have been known to live 300 years.

To treat yourself to a delicacy follow in the footsteps of the Indians and go on a nutting expedition. It's fun, good exercise—and cheaper than buying piñon nuts in a gourmet store. □



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Woman's Viewpoint



PEELED AND aged apples make the most adorable dolls. It's unbelievable how the flesh of the apples withers and shrinks to resemble human facial wrinkles. Applehead sculpturing requires no artistic talent; even crudely carved apples look great after three weeks curing time. If you would like to make an applehead doll you need apples, wire clothes hangers, beads with straight pins or cloves, lemon juice, salt, and a paring knife. The procedure is:

1. Peel apple until smooth.
2. Sprinkle with salt and lemon juice.
3. Sculpture facial features. Remember the eyes are located at the center of the face. A small slit makes a perfect pinched looking mouth. Forehead wrinkles can be made with tiny horizontal slashes.
4. Sprinkle with salt and lemon juice again.
5. Put apple in a dry place.
6. After four days press cloves or beads on straight pins into the eye indentations.
7. Cut a wire clothes hanger into a two-foot length and bend in the middle to resemble a narrow hairpin.

8. Push wire ends through the core of the apple. Take care the ends don't poke through a cheek. The wire will become the foundation of the body and legs of the doll after the head is cured. (If the eyes and wire are put in as soon as the apple is sculptured the area often darkens where they are inserted.)

9. Bend wire to hang head. Leave in a dry place for two and a half weeks.

After the head has cured a total of three weeks it will be firm and have shrunk tightly around the wire. The head will last indefinitely. I have seen applehead dolls 30 years old. Although the facial color begins to darken in about four years, and by the time the head is ten years old it will be completely black.

The finishing touches of the face are important. A small amount of rouge or lipstick can be applied to the mouth with a toothpick and carefully blotted with a tissue. The eyes come alive with a touch of white paint. Hair can be made from yarn that has been brushed thoroughly. A tiny piece of brushed yarn makes the cutest bushy eyebrows. Or if you want a



narrow eyebrow use a piece of embroidery floss dipped in glue.

To complete the wire body take another two foot piece of wire and bend double for the arms. The wire needs to be extra long so it can be wound around the main wire torso. To get the proper body proportions, look closely at the wire form and visualize the completed doll. The entire body should be approximately seven times the length of the head.

The body of the doll can be completed several ways. A stuffed rag-doll can be made and slipped over the wire form, or a fast and easy body can be made from a white knit shirt. Cut the shirt into one-inch strips. Wind the strips around and around the wire frame until your doll has the desired padding. Tuck the loose

end between the laps of material and you are finished.

Hands for apple head dolls can be made from a sculptured slice of apple and cured the same as the head; they can be mitten-type hands cut from cloth; or preferably, the hands can be molded from hard drying clay.

The fun and creative talent comes when costuming the dolls. Some apples wither into a facial expression that tells you immediately how it should be dressed. Others take a little thought.

Imagine a wrinkled elf with pointed shoes peeking into a tiny nest filled with bird eggs, a grinning Santa Claus with a bag of miniature toys, a buxom governess pushing a baby carriage, or a weathered prospector panning for gold. Let your imagination run wild. If you have a miniature sombrero, gun, or musical instrument, let it help determine your doll's costume.

It is wise to mount the doll and any accessory figures on a piece of wood so they can be easily moved. The dolls are guaranteed to be the prime topic of conversation wherever they are displayed. Try your luck with an applehead doll and send us a picture.

A tasty main dish is:

BURGER DOGS

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 2 tbs. vegetable oil
- 2 tbs. water
- 8 frankfurters split lengthwise
- 1 can tomato sauce
- 1 chopped onion
- 8 frankfurter buns

Use a heavy skillet to brown beef in vegetable oil. Add frankfurters, tomato sauce, onion and water. Cook 15 minutes. Serve mixture on heated buns.

Contributed by Jane Thomas —
North Hollywood, Calif.

Woman's Viewpoint next month will contain recipes using nature's harvest. A side-dish recipe just arrived using barley and pinyon nuts—sounds delicious. But I need many more recipes to fill our page. Do you have a recipe using wild mint, dandelion leaves, or choke cherries? If so, how about sharing your recipe? □

John A. Robinson

Both trout and bass are caught from boats and from shore near the Big Bear Lake dam. Fishing is best during early morning and evening hours with both bait and lures.



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BIG BEAR LAKE

Continued from page 21

community of Big Bear Lake having markets, sporting goods and clothing stores, commercial camper and tenting areas and public campgrounds. Majority of the camping areas are located along the north shore drive from the dam through the charming community of Fawnskin and on toward the west end of the lake.

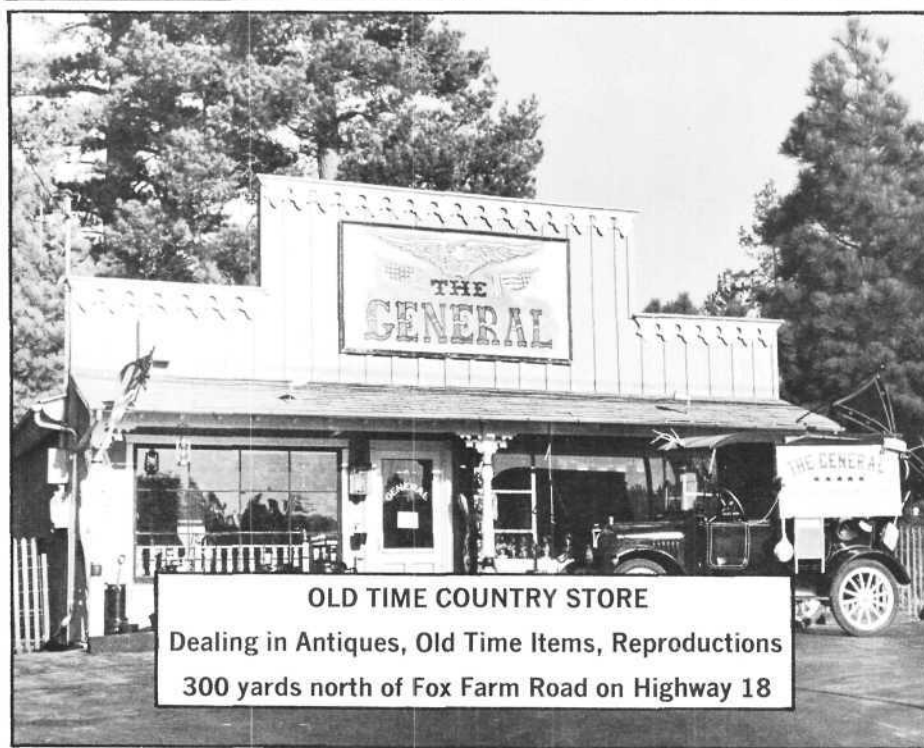
Motels and lodges are concentrated on the south side of the lake with the main

restaurants, curio shops, Indian craft centers and a variety of amusement and recreational facilities catering to every member of the family.

These include excellent horseback riding stables, bicycle and motor bike rentals, amusement arcades and even a large ice skating rink which is a favorite with summer visitors wanting to "cool it." Bowling alleys, swimming pools, tennis courts and public playgrounds are also available.

A public golf course, swimming pool, trout pond, park and excellent animal zoo are located near the community of Moonridge at the west end of the lake.

And for a truly panoramic view of the lake and surrounding country, be sure to take a ride on the ski lift at Snow Summit. Rising thousands of feet above the



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lake, the ski lift operates the year around for winter skiers and summer viewers. There is also horseback riding at the Snow Summit Lodge.

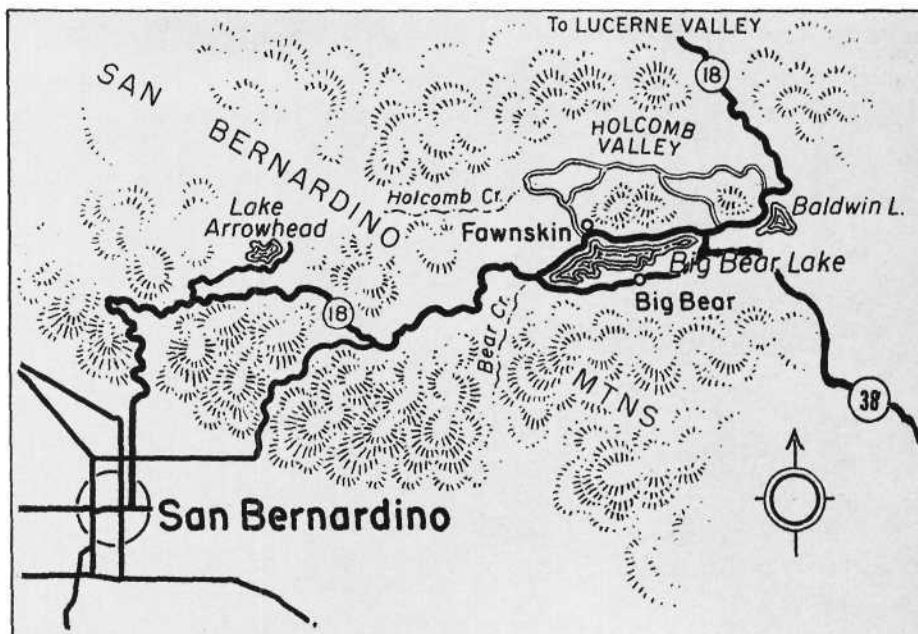
In addition to the commercial camping and trailer parks, there are more than a dozen public campgrounds in the area, all of which are administered by the U. S. Forest Service. Majority of the sites have water and toilets with a one dollar a day charge and a limit of 14 days camping.

Other public campgrounds are located in the Angelus Oaks and Seven Oaks area south of Big Bear Lake along the beautiful and scenic paved highway (State Route 38) from Redlands to Big Bear. This area also has fine fishing streams and is a hiker's paradise.

The shortest route to Big Bear from the Los Angeles area is State Route 30 from San Bernardino. This is called Rim of the World Drive. It passes through many small communities and connects with the road to Lake Arrowhead. However, there are no public campgrounds along this highway.

A third paved and scenic route to the Big Bear area is State Route 18 from Lucerne Valley and Victorville. Extending from these three main arteries are many good graded roads for passenger cars taking you into scenic and historic areas within the San Bernardino National Forest.

If you want to get away from the hectic life and smog of the metropolitan areas or, if you want a contrast from desert living, head for Big Bear Valley where you will forget the cares of the day among the cool lakes and streams and the whispering pines. □



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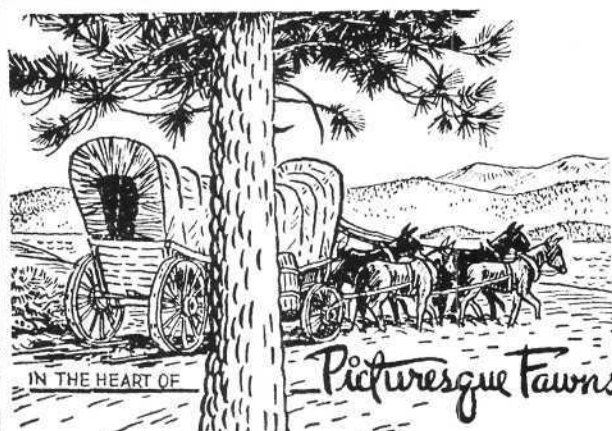
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HISTORIC HOLCOMB VALLEY

Continued from page 25

one store, two butcher shops, two laundries, one bakery, three carpenter shops, two blacksmiths, one stamp mill and one sawmill.

As in all early-day mining camps, the saloon was not just for drinking. It was the social hall, courthouse, town meeting hall and a place to get the latest information on the latest strike, murder or robbery.

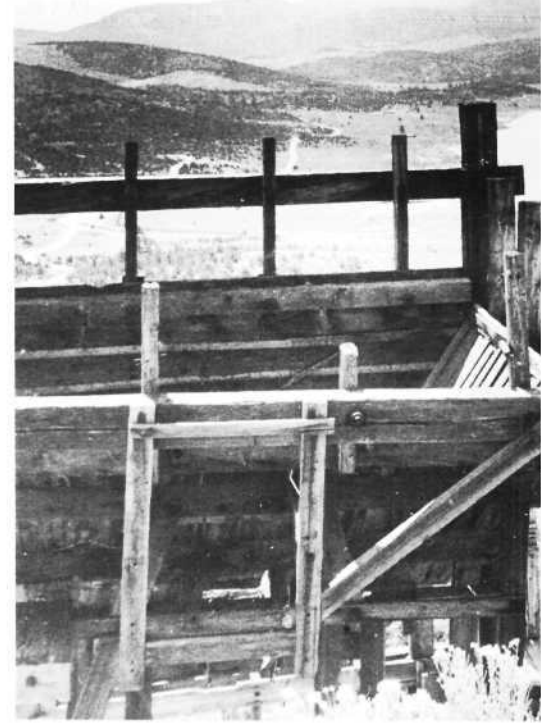
Mrs. Jed Van Dusen, wife of the blacksmith, made a flag from her petticoats for the town's first Fourth of July so the sentimental miners named the new town Belleville in honor of her pretty little daughter, Belle.

In the presidential election of 1860, Belleville cast 307 votes for Abraham Lincoln and missed by only two votes taking the county seat away from San Bernardino.

Belleville's sister city was Clapboard Town whose great claim to fame is the Tree of the Living Cross which com-

memorated the fatal duel of two miners named Charlie the Chink and Greek George.

When Charlie accused Greek George of jumping his claim there was no peaceful way of settling the dispute. A coin



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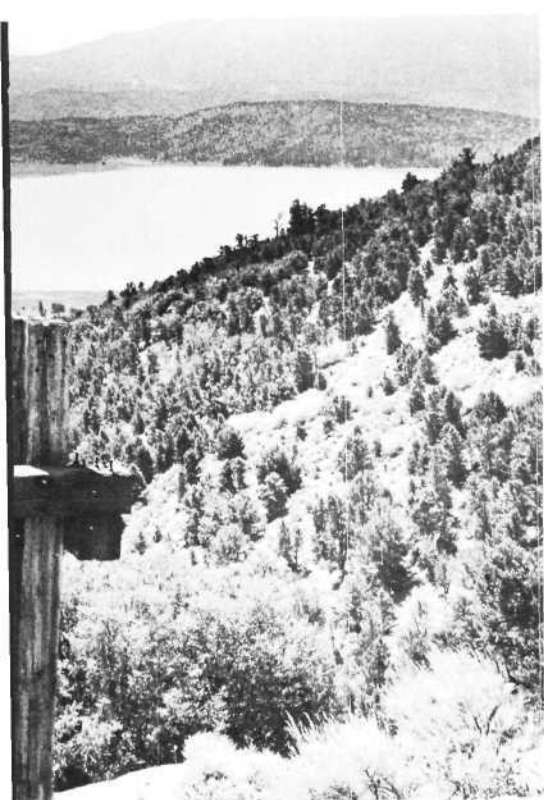
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Last of the Holcomb Valley mining activities was that of the Doble Mine operated by E. J. "Lucky" Baldwin.

Unfortunately, the tree and the site of Clapboard Town are now within a restricted area and not open to the public.

Another notable tree, however, is still standing. Hangman's Tree is a symbol of miner's justice for it was from this stately juniper the citizens hanged many a murderer after a hasty trial. When a victim of a hanging was cut down the branch from which he hung was chopped off. So by counting the cuttings today you can tally the number of hangings.

These and many other stories and directions to the various historic sites are presented in the Forestry Services "Gold Fever Trail" guidebook. Before taking the trip, stop by the Big Bear Ranger Station near Fawnskin and pick up the guidebook and the free map of the San Bernardino National Forest Area.

Then head for Holcomb Valley and a trip into the past when men's lives—although sometimes short—were packed with adventure in their search for gold.

was flipped to see who would choose the type of weapons. Charlie won and picked the weapons of his ancestors—knives. When the duel was over both men lay dead at the foot of a tree. A cross was cut into the tree.

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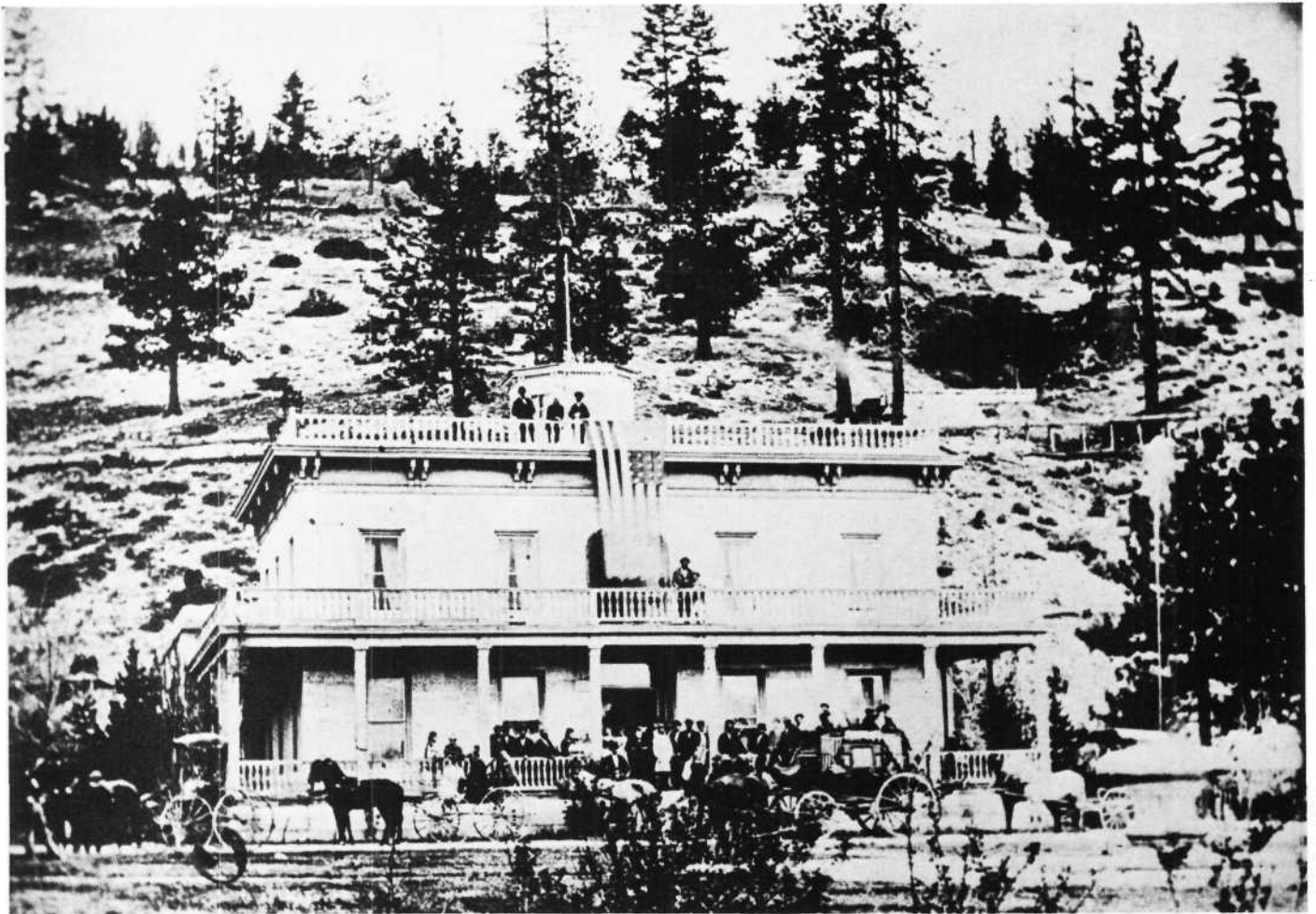
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THE BOWERS



The \$500,000 Bowers Mansion during its heyday was a showplace of Nevada and California.

THERE WAS a time long ago when nobody would go to the grand mansion in Nevada's Washoe Valley. The "better class" considered its owners, Sandy Bowers, and his crystal ball-gazing wife, Eilley Orrum, as newly-rich upstarts who could hardly be expected to excel in social graces. Although fine ladies would not visit her, their menfolk had no qualms about staying half the night drinking ale imported from Glasgow that Sandy so generously provided.

Today Bowers Mansion is an ideal tourist attraction where gay crowds from nearby communities swim, picnic, and thoroughly enjoy their day in spacious new picnic grounds, enlarged pools and convenient rest areas.

According to Lester Russell, director

of Washoe County Parks and Recreation, over 12,000 persons toured Bowers during 1969. They traveled to Nevada from 40 states and 9 foreign countries.

Travelers get their first glimpse of the mansion as they drive along U.S. 395 approximately 10 miles outside Nevada's capital, Carson City. Situated in a beautiful grove of majestic pines at the foot of a rugged peak in picturesque Washoe Valley, it is an instant eye-catcher.

Today the mansion presents the picture of perfect serenity and elegance as it nestles in its beautiful setting. Such serenity hides a tale of fantastic dreams, fabulous riches, quick misfortune and heartache, including 10 changes of ownership in 16 years.

When Sandy Bowers, an uneducated,

itinerant miner, unearthed a bonanza during the hectic scramble for gold and silver in early-day Virginia City, he and his wife decided to have the grandest home between St. Louis and San Francisco. Although Eilley Orrum, his wife, had previously operated a boarding house and did laundry for the miners, she knew what she wanted. The Bowers spent a year and a half in Europe selecting furnishings for the mansion, including massive ornate furniture from England, marble from Italy, huge French mirrors and beautiful Belgian lace draperies. In addition, carpets were woven of a special design, and an elaborate silver service was manufactured from bullion sent from the Bowers' mine, as well as being used for hinges and door knobs.

MANSION

by
Doris Cerveri



Today the Bowers Mansion has been restored and is a favorite picnicking and sightseeing area.

Many items of early Americana were purchased in New York and other New England states and shipped to Nevada.

Cuttings of ivy from Westminster Abbey and Scotch broom (a type of bush) were imported and transplanted throughout the grounds in addition to poplars and pine. Reportedly all these leanings toward grandeur cost about \$407,000.

The Bowers \$100,000 a month income from their mine did not continue indefinitely. Income from the mine diminished; Sandy died and creditors clamored for money. Eilley decided the only way out of her financial chaos was to raffle off the mansion and its furnishings. Strangely enough she drew her own ticket and was allowed to keep her home. With the

money from the raffle she paid off the creditors and remodeled the structure by adding a third story containing eight small bedrooms for paying guests. A dance pavilion was built at the side of the mansion.

Although Bowers Mansion was a popular place for parties and picnics, Eilley could not keep up with her obligations and the property was auctioned off.

The Reno Women's Civic Club persuaded the Washoe County Commissioners to purchase the property from the last owner, Henry Riter, for a museum and recreation area in 1946. The mansion was outfitted in a manner as nearly possible as that of Comstock days. Since 1947 the entire building has been re-

novated. The entire third floor has been removed, and now the building looks more like it did when first constructed over one hundred years ago.

Over the past 23 years a committee of ten women have poured over old photographs, done considerable research in historical sections of the public library and university and with much planning and hard work the mansion is once again elegant and beautiful with a "new, old look."

The mansion is a perfect place to spend a day for a picnic and a peek into the past. Tours are conducted daily from 11:30 to 4:30 with the season from the middle of May through September. □

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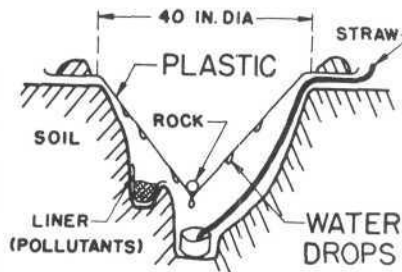
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Rambling on Rocks

by Glenn and Martha Vargas

MANY PEOPLE know about petrified wood and most think petrified wood is "wood turned to stone." Few, however, know much about how it was formed.

There are two schools of thought on how wood became petrified. One is fairly old, and presently not given much attention by geologists, a newer one having supplanted it. We shall describe both processes, and we suspect that the older idea has actually worked at times. First, we must say a few words about

the preparation of wood for the process.

It is necessary the wood not decay, or decay very slowly, thus it must be excluded from oxygen. The most obvious method is that the wood is buried. This can happen in a number of ways. The most common method is being covered by river silt. Being covered by volcanic ash is another method. The petrified forest of Arizona was buried by silt from an ancient river. A fine example of a forest buried by volcanic ash is found in Yellowstone National Park. We shall discuss both of these locations in a later column.

Wood that is buried by river sediments is usually carried there by the river, with the logs coming to rest in a shallow lake or delta. If the river is carrying copious amounts of silt, the logs are soon covered. The burying process sometimes makes beds of wood-laden silt many hundreds of feet thick.

If an erupting volcano buries the wood with ash, the trees are usually left standing. Limbs and tops of the trees are usually broken off and lie in the ash.

Depending upon the length of time of the eruption, ash beds burying a forest are seldom over two or three hundred feet thick. Great depth of burial is not really necessary here. During an eruption violent enough to bury a forest, oxygen has already been greatly excluded from the air. Other gases as part of the eruption have taken its place. More gases are given off by the cooling ash. At the same time, the ash compacts very tightly, and makes an effective seal against air.

Logs, small pieces of wood, leaves, etc., may lie buried for great lengths of time without any change, or the process of petrification may begin shortly after burial. In the case of silt buried wood, there is ample water present, and if it contains dissolved minerals that may do the job, the process may be continuous. When wood is buried by volcanic ash, there usually is deep-seated heat that will force mineral-laden solutions up to the wood.

The older theory of petrification, in print as late as 1940, is known as the substitution theory. Generally, it is based upon the very slow decay of the wood. As each cell would decay, its place would be filled with a small amount of some mineral. It was thought that the process

was carried out with the mineral dissolved in an alkaline solution. With the decay of the wood, an acid was a by-product. The acid would neutralize the alkali, forcing the dissolved mineral to precipitate. There is some evidence, at least in our minds, that this process occurred on rare occasions.

The other process, known as infiltration, is quite different, and perhaps a bit difficult to believe. It again involves wood being contacted by solutions carrying large amounts of dissolved minerals. A complete absence of oxygen is not imperative, and decay of the wood is not part of the process. Here, the mineral that does the petrifying simply fills all the cellular and intercellular spaces in the wood. To use an illustration, let us hold in our hand a bundle of ordinary drinking straws. Each straw can be compared to a chain of wood cells known as a vascular bundle. These bundles of cells are in reality tubes that transport moisture and foods up the stems of plants. If these tubes transported water and various chemical foods (minerals) during the life of the tree, then the same thing can happen after its death. If we will stand the handful of drinking straws on a table top, it would much resemble a short log. If we pour into it an amount of gelatine, after cooling, we would have a semi-solid mass much like petrified wood. In this process, it must be emphasized that the wood (and the drinking straws) is still there, with the only real change being the filling of the individual cells with a mineral. The great difference between the two theories is that the older one points to little or no wood being present, it having been decayed and lost; while the newer theory says that the wood is still there.

How can we prove the newer theory? We had an interesting experience a number of years ago which showed us this wood. In our travels we picked up a very nice petrified log about five inches in diameter, and about a foot in length. It was very solid, of a very pleasing light brown color, and showed wood grain very nicely. When we returned home, we decided to cut it into slices. The result of the first cut was a shock; the sawn surfaces were jet black, with no wood grain showing. We were at a loss to explain it, and having other things to occu-

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Martha Vargas inspects a tree of "wood turned to stone" which still stands, giving credence to the infiltration theory: "Petrified" wood is still wood instead of stone.

py us, we set the log out in the yard and forgot it.

A few months later we noticed our log, and now the surface showed the same wood pattern and color as the other surfaces. Weather had destroyed the wood structure and now we saw the pattern as very minute depressions. A small amount of research into the matter showed us how to do the job in only a few days. If we took a pure black slice and placed it in a covered dish of ordinary household bleach, the wood was dissolved away. Granted, the color induced by the bleach was not as pleasing as that produced by nature, but the pattern was identical. We have since tried the bleach method on various types of petrified wood, with generally the same results. We are con-

vinced that the infiltration theory is a reality.

Up to this point we have been sidestepping a number of situations, mostly terms. We have not given the derivation of the word petrified. Most people think the word means "wood turned to stone," but it comes from the Latin meaning *stone* and *to make*. Also, we have refrained from using the words "wood replaced by," and now it is obvious that most, if not all petrified wood is still wood. Instead, we prefer to use the term preserved by, as the wood is really preserved by some mineral.

Also we have not named the type of mineral that is involved. Actually, there are a number of minerals known to have done the job, and we shall discuss them in our next column. □

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Letters to the Editor

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Wise Words . . .

All three of us enjoy Desert Magazine from cover to cover. We couldn't agree more with your policies regarding the "proper use" of our beautiful deserts and mountains.

It was a wonderful day when we heard our 15-year-old son give two of his aunts a lecture on conservation, littering and the destruction of highway signs.

The article "Camping The Easy Way" in the June '70 issue was of particular interest because we had just purchased a small business in Groveland, California—a bit of California history.

CAROL, JIM & JAMES LEDBETTER,
Groveland, California.

No Water . . .

Concerning the article "Secret of the Great Flood" in the July '70 issue, my friend and I drove 70 miles to this area only to find the stream completely dry. Please be advised this area will not be wet until next season's rains. Dry washers or "bring your own water" will work now, but natural water is not available for panning, sluices or dredges. I feel that your article should have mentioned this fact. Otherwise, keep up the good work.

ROBERT BUMPKINS,
Santa Ana, Calif.

Editor's Note: Before using the article we checked and were advised there was water in the canyon the year around. To those who had Reader Bumpkin's experience, we apologize. To those going to the area during the summer—bring your own panning water.

Indian Country . . .

Congratulations on your June, 1970 issue in which you salute the Indian Country. The article by Jack Pepper was especially interesting. As a result of reading the issue we have switched our vacation plans from touring Canada to spending our entire two weeks taking a tour through Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico.

MR. AND MRS. FRED BROADHURST,
New York, New York.

Delamar vs. DeLamar . . .

In the article "Hidden Gold of the Paiutes" (June '70), John Townley states "the locality is Delamar, Nevada, one of the best preserved ghost towns in the Great Basin."

Certainly Delamar cannot be called "one of the best preserved ghost towns." Even the photograph published with the story shows that not much is preserved in Delamar. Our last visit almost four years ago revealed there is so little left, it is really hard to visualize even one street of the once booming town.

Capt. Joseph R. DeLamar, chief developer of this mining town in Nevada, established another DeLamar mining town in Idaho. It has more preserved buildings than Nevada's Delamar. DeLamar in Idaho is only a few miles down the famous Silver City, on the way to Jordan Valley, and naturally not in the Great Basin.

ROMAN MALACH,
Yarnell, Arizona.

Editor's Note: Possibly the observation of preservation is a matter of perseverance.

Church Location . . .

Regarding the picture of the church in the June '70 issue and request for information about the location.

The church is called the "Santa Cruz" church and was built in 1923. It is located five miles south of the St. John's Indian Mission, which is south of Laveen, Arizona. The Santa Cruz church is pretty, but very simple inside. The altar is a simple wooden one as are the pews and kneelers. The floor is also wood.

A priest from St. John's Mission says the mass on Sundays and Holy days. The church would accommodate about 100 people. The Cross, in the yard, is circled with a cement base with pretty rocks in it.

FRANK POUQUETTE,
Goodyear, Arizona.

Grave Problem . . .

In 1969 my husband and I visited the New Dale mining district in California's San Bernardino County and saw the little grave (Letters, July '70) described by Jim Osborn. At that time it was intact and we put a few more rocks on the grave.

When we returned in 1970 we found it and other graves in the area dug up and the stones broken. This sort of thing is terrible. We hope you can find the culprits and bring them to justice.

MR. & MRS. WILLIAM STOKES,
Yucca Valley, California.

Editor's Note: If acts of vandalism are observed it is best to take the license number of the vehicle of the participants and immediately report it to the nearest ranger or sheriff.

Calendar of Western Events

This column is a public service and there is no charge for listing your event or meeting—so take advantage of the space by send-in your announcement. However, we must receive the information at least two months prior to the event. Be certain to furnish complete details.

JULY 31 - AUGUST 2, APPLE VALLEY POW WOW, Apple Valley, California. Indian craftsmanship, ceremonial dances, and various thoroughbred horse shows. Write Chamber of Commerce.

AUGUST 12, LITTLE FIESTA, Santa Barbara, California. Opening of four-day annual "Old Spanish Days."

AUGUST 13 - 16, INTER-TRIBAL CEREMONIAL, Gallup, New Mexico. About 30 different tribes participate in rodeos, parades, dances and other performances. Arts and crafts for sale. Write Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial Association, Box 1029, Gallup, New Mexico 87301.


JULY 16-AUGUST 8, UTAH SHAKESPEAREAN FESTIVAL, Cedar City, Utah. Three Shakespearean plays performed under the clear mountain skies. For information write Utah Shakespearean Festival, Cedar City, Utah.

SEPTEMBER 20, FRESNO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY'S Annual Rockswap, Oak Knoll A in Kearney Park, Fresno, Calif.

OCTOBER 3 & 4, HARVEST OF GEM SHOW sponsored by the Centinela Valley Gem and Mineral Club, Hawthorne Memorial Center, El Segundo Blvd. and Prairie Avenue, Hawthorne, California.

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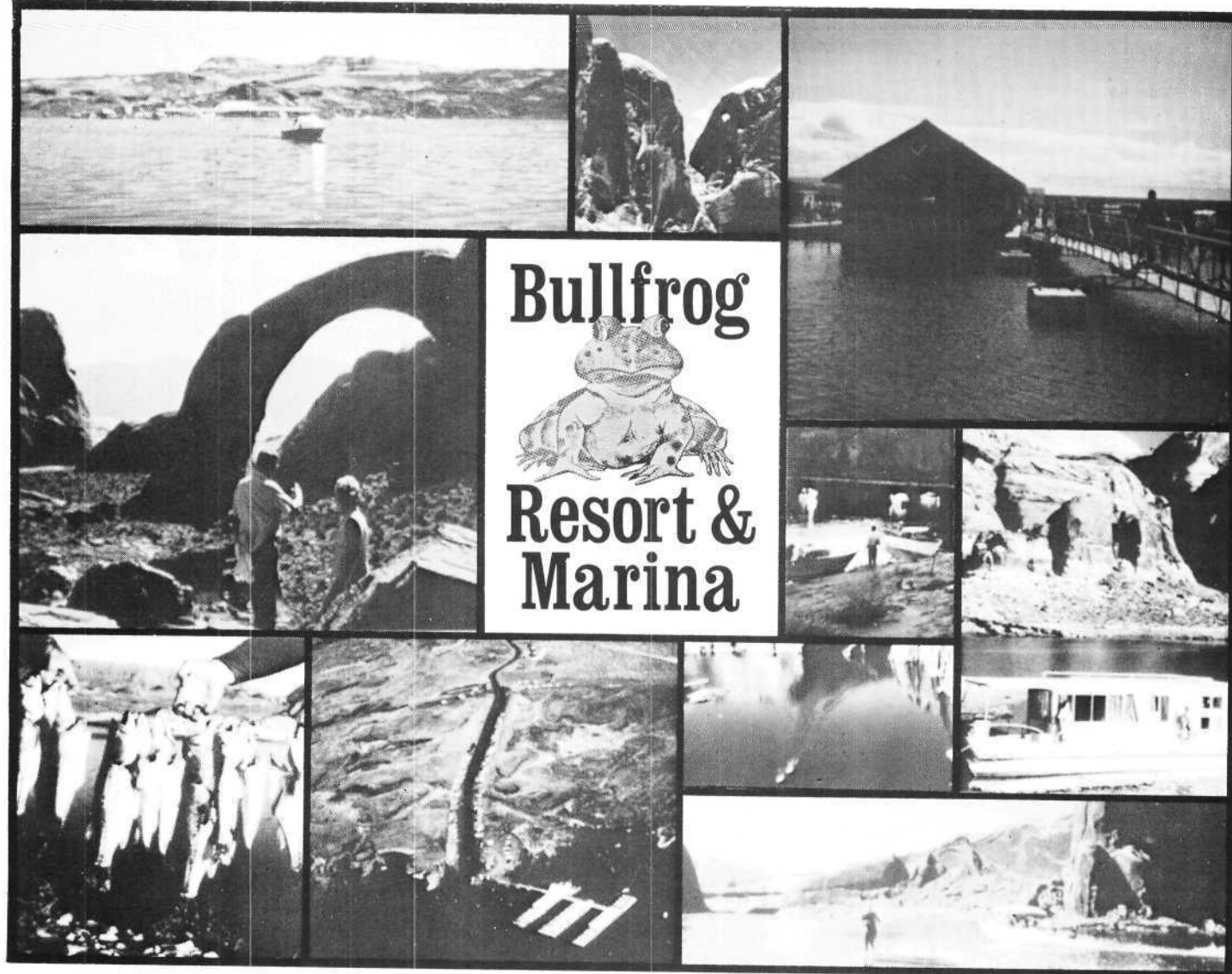
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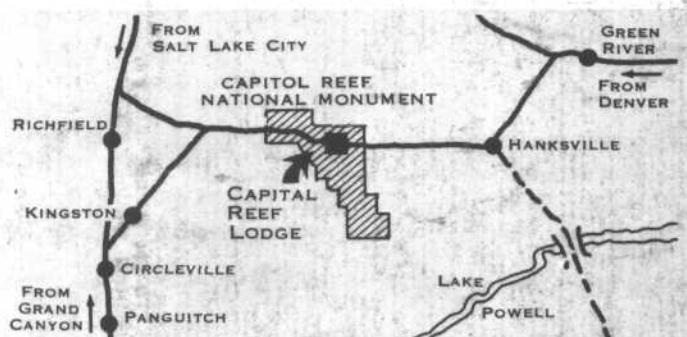
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